This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GEOGRAPHY

BY W. HUGHES, F.R.G.S.

1/6

Popular Educational Works

PUBLISHED BY

GEORGE PHILIP & SON.

SERIES OF EDUCATIONAL ATLASES,

EDITED BY WILLIAM HUGHES, F.R.G.S.

Philips' Comprehensive School Atlas,
Comprising Thirty-six Modern and Five Ancient Maps, with Consulting Index. Imperial 8vo, strongly bound in cloth, 10s. 6d.

Philips' Introductory School Atlas,
Comprising Eighteen Maps of the principal Countries of the World, with Consulting Index. Imperial 8vo, bound in cloth, 5s.

Philips' School Classical Atlas,
A Series of Twenty-one Maps. Medium 4to, handsomely bound in cloth, 5s. 6d.

Philips' Student's Atlas,
Comprising Eighteen Maps of Modern Geography, constructed from the most recent authorities; and carefully coloured. Imperial 4to, bound in cloth, 3s. 6d.

Philips' Young Scholar's Atlas,
Containing Twelve Maps of Modern Geography, full coloured; intended as a First Class-Book for Young Learners. Imperial 4to, paper cover, 2s.; cloth, 2s. 6d.

Philips' Shilling Atlas,
Containing Nine Maps of Modern Geography. Imperial 4to, neat wrapper.

Boardman's Historical Geography,
For the use of Pupil Teachers, Students in Training Colleges, and Teachers and Schools generally. By A. BOARDMAN, C.M. New Edition. Fcap. 8vo, cl., 1s. 6d.

"What shall I Teach next?"
A Series of Subjects for Lessons in Religious K
Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Grammar,
and Dictation, for FOUR YEARS, progressive
Daily Portions. By W. C. SPARROW. Cro

London: Published by GEORGE PHILIP & So
and 51 South Castle Street, Li

PHILIPS' PROGRESSIVE SERIES OF

SCHOOL COPY BOOKS,

WITH ENGRAVED HEAD-LINES,

ARRANGED AND WRITTEN BY

ALEXANDER STEWART, TEACHER OF WRITING.

Large Post 4to edit., printed on superfine Cream Wove Paper.
Post 4to edition, ditto, ditto.
Foolscap 4to, fine edition, ditto, ditto.
Foolscap 4to edition, printed on fine Yellow Wove Paper.

POST AND LARGE POST SERIES.

1 Initiatory Exercises.
2 Alphabet in Progressive Order.
3 Short Words.
4 Large Hand.
5 Large and Round Hand.
6 Round Hand.
7 Introduction to Small Hand.
8 Round and Small Hands.
9 Small Hand.
10 Large, Round, and Small Hands.
11 Ladi[illegible] Hand.
12 S[illegible]cial

FOOLSCAP SERIES.

1 Initiatory Exercises.
2 Alphabet in Progressive Order.
3 Short Words.
4 Large Hand.
4½ Text Hand.
5 Large and Round Hands.
6 Round Hand.
7 Introduction to Small Hand.
7½ Introductory Book—Large, Round, and Small Hands.
8 Round and Small Hands.
9 Small Hand.
10 Large, Round, and Small Hands.
10½ Large, Text, Round, and Small Hands.
11 Ladies' Small Hand.
12 Commercial Small Hand.
Figures.
Introductory Book for Girls.
[illegible]dies' Angular Hand—First Book.

[illegible]erested in Education, is as being *superior*, in all

[illegible]*aring*, and *Printing*, have [illegible]per selected will be found [illegible]e purpose, and made ex-

[illegible]he necessity of combining [illegible]nd have, therefore, fixed as [illegible]harged for the inferior de-

[illegible] & Son, 32 Fleet Street; [illegible]t, Liverpool.

2017. f. 300

ELEMENTARY CLASS-BOOK

OF

MODERN GEOGRAPHY.

BY

WILLIAM HUGHES, F.R.G.S.,

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY IN QUEEN'S COLLEGE, LONDON; AUTHOR OF "A MANUAL OF GEOGRAPHY," "A CLASS-BOOK OF GEOGRAPHY," ETC. ETC. ETC.

LONDON:

GEORGE PHILIP & SON, 32 FLEET STREET;

AND 51 SOUTH CASTLE STREET, LIVERPOOL.

M.DCCC.LX.

LIVERPOOL:
PRINTED BY GEORGE PHILIP AND SON,
SOUTH CASTLE STREET.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION: DEFINITION OF TERMS,	1
EUROPE,	7
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND,	17
FRANCE,	37
BELGIUM,	41
HOLLAND, OR THE NETHERLANDS,	42
SWITZERLAND,	43
AUSTRIA,	45
PRUSSIA,	47
SMALLER STATES OF GERMANY,	48
DENMARK,	50
SWEDEN AND NORWAY,	51
RUSSIA,	53
TURKEY,	55
GREECE,	56
ITALY,	58
SPAIN,	61
PORTUGAL,	63

PAGE

ASIA, ... 65
Turkey in Asia, ... 71
Arabia, ... 74
Persia, ... 75
Afghanistan and Beloochistan, . . . 77
India, ... 78
Indo-Chinese Countries, ... 83
Chinese Empire, ... 85
Turkestan, ... 88
Asiatic Russia, ... 88
East Indian Archipelago, ... 90
Japan, ... 92

AFRICA, ... 94
Northern Africa (Morocco, Algeria, Tunis, Tripoli), ... 99
The Nile Region (Egypt, Nubia, Abyssinia), . 100
Soudan, or Negro-land, ... 103
Southern Africa (Cape Colony, Natal), . . 105
Islands of Africa, ... 107

NORTH AMERICA, ... 109
British America (Canada, &c.), . . . 114
United States, ... 116
Mexico, ... 119
Central America, ... 119
The West Indies, ... 120

PAGE

SOUTH AMERICA, ... 123
Brazil, ... 126
Guiana, ... 127
Venezuela, New Granada, Ecuador, . . 128
Peru and Bolivia, ... 129
Chili, ... 130
La Plata, ... 130

AUSTRALIA, ... 132

POLYNESIA, ... 136

AN ELEMENTARY CLASS-BOOK

OF

MODERN GEOGRAPHY.

INTRODUCTION.

[redacted]APHY is a description of the Earth; that is, an account [redacted] Lands and Seas which constitute the surface of the earth, with their respective Climates, Productions, and Inhabitants. Such a description involves, *firstly*, an account of the natural features of the earth's surface, and of the climate, minerals, plants, and animals which belong to different regions; *secondly*, a description of the various countries into which the earth is divided, with the condition and pursuits of their inhabitants, and the names and places of the principal towns in each.

The description of the natural features of the globe comes under the head of Physical Geography; that of the different countries into which the earth is divided is distinguished as Descriptive (or Political) Geography. In the account of each country, the natural features are here noticed first, the inhabitants next, and the various divisions of the country, with the towns in each, last in order.

DEFINITION OF GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS.

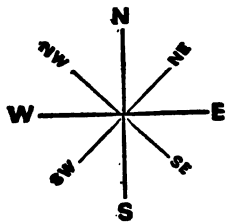
1. The Earth is very nearly a globe in shape,—that is, it is round (like a ball or an orange). It measures about 25,000 miles round, and a straight line supposed to pass through its centre would be about 8000 miles long. The former of these measures is called the *Circumference* of the earth, the latter its *Diameter*.

2. The earth is constantly turning round, in a direction from west to east, upon an imaginary line (called its *Axis*), which passes through its centre, and which therefore forms one of its diameters. This motion is the cause of day and night.

3. The extremities of the earth's axis are called the *Poles* of the earth. One of them is the North Pole, the other the South Pole.

4. A circle drawn round the earth midway between the poles—that is, at exactly the same distance from each pole—is called the *Equator*. The equator divides the globe into two halves, or *Hemispheres*—a Northern Hemisphere and a Southern Hemisphere. The northern hemisphere is that half of the globe which is between the equator and the north pole, and the southern hemisphere is the half that is between the equator and the south pole.

5. North, South, East, and West, are terms used to express the relative positions of places to one another. They are the four *Cardinal* (or chief) *points of the Compass*—an instrument used to determine the respective bearings of places. There are altogether thirty-two points of the compass—twenty-eight of the number being intermediate between the four cardinal points. The point lying midway between north and east is called North-east; that midway between north and west is North-west. In like manner, the points lying midway between the east and west and the south points are called South-east and South-west.



6. A line drawn round the earth in the exact direction of north and south—that is, passing through the poles, and crossing the equator at right angles—is called a *Meridian*. Such a line may be supposed to pass through any given place on the earth's surface (and may, of course, be actually drawn upon the surface of the artificial globe); it is then called the meridian of that place. Thus, a line drawn through London in the exact direction of north and south is called the meridian of London.

7. The positions of places on the earth's surface are indicated by means of latitude and longitude. *Latitude* is distance in the direction of north and south. *Longitude* is distance in the direction of east and west. The amount either of latitude or longitude is expressed in degrees.

8. Every circle, whether great or small, is supposed to be divided into 360 equal parts, or *Degrees*. A quarter of a circle (or *quadrant*) contains, therefore, 90 degrees. *Latitude* is distance measured, in degrees, from the equator towards either pole. The greatest latitude which a place can have is 90 degrees—that is, the extreme distance of either pole from the line of the equator. All places situated between the equator and the north pole are said to be in North Latitude: all places that lie between the equator and the south pole are in South Latitude.

9. Longitude is distance to the east or west of any given meridian. It is measured half-way round the globe—that is, 180 degrees upon each side of any meridian—and is called East Longitude or West Longitude, according as it is to the east or to the west of the meridian that is used. In England, we use the meridian supposed to pass through Greenwich (near London), where

our National Observatory is situated. Hence we say that a place is so many degrees longitude east of Greenwich, or west of Greenwich.

10. Every degree is divided into sixty equal parts, called *Minutes;* and every minute is divided into sixty equal parts, or *Seconds.* The following signs are used to express degrees, minutes, and seconds—° ′ ″. If it is necessary to express distances (either of latitude or longitude) which are less than a degree, we say that a place is in so many degrees, so many minutes, and so many seconds, using these signs. Thus, 24° 16′ 28″ means twenty-four degrees, sixteen minutes, and twenty-eight seconds: just in the same way that, in order to express an amount of money, we might say £24, 16s. 8d., that is, twenty-four pounds, sixteen shillings, and eightpence.

11. Circles drawn round the globe in a direction parallel to the equator are called *Parallels of Latitude,* (or simply Parallels). They are usually drawn upon artificial globes and maps at every ten (or sometimes every five) degrees apart. They serve to show, in a general way, the latitudes of various places. Places that are on (or near) the same parallel, have of course the same (or nearly the same) latitude.

12. Meridian lines—that is, lines in the exact direction of north and south—are also generally drawn upon globes and maps at distances either of five or ten degrees apart. They serve to show the longitudes of places. Places that are on (or near) the same meridian, have the same (or nearly the same) longitude.

13. Two circles drawn round the globe in a direction parallel to the equator, and at a distance of 23½° from that line, are called the *Tropics.* That drawn at 23½° to the north of the equator is called the *Tropic of Cancer:* the similar circle drawn at 23½° south of the equator is called the *Tropic of Capricorn.* These lines mark the further distances, on either side of the equator, within which the sun is vertical.

14. Two circles drawn round the globe in a direction parallel to the equator, and at distances of 23½° from either pole, are called the *Polar Circles.* The circle drawn at 23½° from the north pole is distinguished as the *Arctic Circle:* that drawn at 23½° from the south pole is called the *Antarctic Circle.* These circles mark the limits (from either pole) within which the sun remains wholly above the horizon for a term of more than twenty-four hours at one season of the year, or does not rise for a term of more than twenty-four hours at the opposite period of the year.

15. The tropics and polar circles serve to divide the surface of the earth into five *Zones*—one Torrid Zone, two Temperate Zones, and two Frigid Zones. The space lying between the tropics is the *Torrid Zone,* which is the hottest part of the world, because there the sun is vertical—or directly over-head. The space comprehended between the tropic of Cancer and the arctic circle is the *North Temperate Zone;* and the similar space between the tropic of Capricorn and the antarctic circle is the *South Temperate Zone.* The space within the arctic circle (and surrounding the north pole) is the *North Frigid Zone;* and the like space within the antarctic circle, surrounding the south pole, is the *South Frigid Zone.* The frigid zones are the coldest parts of the globe, for there the sun is, during a portion of the year, wholly absent—not rising above the horizon for weeks (or months) in continuous succession. The temperate zones (as the word "temperate" implies) are neither so hot as the torrid zone, nor so cold as the frigid zones.

The surface of the earth is divided into LAND and WATER. The land occupies little more than one-quarter of the whole. Nearly three-fourths of the earth's surface are covered by water.

The following terms are used to denote various portions of the land:—

1. A portion of land surrounded by water is called an *Island.** Borneo, Madagascar, Iceland, Great Britain—any one of which may be readily found upon the artificial globe, or on the map of the world—are examples of islands.

2. A portion of land *nearly* surrounded by water is called a *Peninsula.*† Italy, Greece, Florida, Arabia, are examples of peninsulas. Sweden and Norway (together) also present an example of a peninsula; so, too, do Spain and Portugal.

3. A narrow neck of land which unites any two larger portions is called an *Isthmus.* As, for example, the Isthmus of Suez, which unites Asia and Africa; the Isthmus of Panama, which joins North and South America; and the Isthmus of Corinth, which joins the southern part of Greece (the Morea) to the mainland.

4. A very large portion of land—so large as to contain several countries, or smaller divisions—is called a *Continent.* Europe, for example, is a continent; so also are Asia, Africa, Australia, North America, and South America. There are therefore, in all, six continents.

Europe, Asia, and Africa, are all joined together, and form really but portions of one vast expanse of land, sometimes called the Eastern continent, or the Old World. So, in like manner, North and South America are united, and together form the Western continent, or New World.

Europe, Asia, and Africa, are together called the Old World, because they were known to the nations of antiquity. America, or the New World, was not discovered until near the close of the fifteenth century.

5. The line where the land and water meet is called the *Coast.* A point of land which advances beyond the general coast-line, so as to project or jut out into the water, is called a *Cape*, or *Point.* The terms Promontory, Head, or Headland, are often applied to capes—the first more especially to high points of land. Cape Comorin (the southern point of India), Cape Horn (at the south of the New World), the Cape of Good Hope (in the south of Africa), and Flamborough Head (on the east coast of England), are examples of capes.

6. A portion of land not much raised above the sea, and with a generally level surface, is called a *Plain*, or *Lowland.* European Russia, Lombardy (in Northern Italy), and the valley of the Mississippi (in North America), are examples of lowland-plains.

7. A tract of land which rises to a considerable height (as a thousand feet, or upwards) above the level of the sea, is called a *Table-land*, or *Highland.* The word *Plateau* is also employed with a like meaning. The country called Tibet (in Central Asia) is an example of a plateau, or table-land. So also is the interior of Spain, in the European quarter of the globe.

8. A smaller portion of land rising above the adjoining plain forms a *Hill*, or *Mountain.* When many such elevations occur in succession, close beside one another, they form a chain of hills, or a *Mountain-chain.* The Grampian Hills, in Scotland; the Alps, between Italy and Switzerland; the Himalaya Mountains, in Asia, are examples. The heights of places are generally expressed in feet, and are calculated from the level of the sea—that is, from the average level of the waters of the globe. Thus we say of a mountain, or a table-land, that it is so many thousand feet above the level of the sea.

9. A narrow opening between two adjoining mountains is called a *Mountain-pass*, and also, in some cases, a *Defile*, or *Ravine.* The passes over mountain-chains lie in some instances at vast heights above the plains below.

10. A sloping portion of land, bounded on either side by lands of greater

---

* Latin, *insula*, an island. † Lat. *pene insula*, almost an island.

height, forms a *Valley*. The forms, both of valleys and of hills, are infinitely varied. Sometimes the slopes are long and gentle. In other cases they are abrupt and steep, so that the valley passes gradually into a ravine or defile.

11. A tract of country which does not allow of sufficient cultivation to be fit for the settled abode of man, is called a *Desert*. The vast region called the Sahara, in Africa, is the most prominent example. It is to the want of water that the sterility of such tracts is for the most part due.

The terms applied to various portions of the waters of the globe are the following :—

1. The vast expanse of water which covers the larger portion of the earth's surface is called the *Ocean*. It is divided by the intervening lands into three great basins—the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans. The waters which lie around the north pole are, in addition, distinguished as the Arctic Ocean, and those in the neighbourhood of the antarctic circle are called the Antarctic or Southern Ocean. There are, therefore, in all, five oceans.

2. The word *Sea* is sometimes used as an equivalent for ocean, but is more generally applied to less extensive portions of the water, situated near the land. A sea which penetrates within the land, so as to be nearly enclosed by it, is called an *Inland Sea*. The Mediterranean is the largest of inland seas. The Red Sea, between Africa and Asia, and the Baltic Sea, in the north of Europe, are other examples.

3. A *Gulf*, or *Bay*, is a smaller arm of the sea, indenting the land; as the Bay of Biscay, on the coasts of France and Spain, or the Gulf of Guinea, on the west coast of Africa.

4. A narrow arm of the sea, connecting two larger portions, is called a *Strait*. The Strait of Gibraltar, which forms the entrance of the Mediterranean; the Strait of Dover, which unites the seas on the eastern and southern coasts of England; and the Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb, at the entrance of the Red Sea, are examples. A broader arm of the sea is sometimes distinguished as a *Channel;* as the English Channel, between the coasts of England and France, and the Mozambique Channel, between the continent of Africa and the island of Madagascar.

5. A body of inland water, surrounded by land, is called a *Lake*. The lakes of Geneva and Constance, in Switzerland; Lake Ladoga, in Russia; and Lake Superior, in North America, are examples. Small lakes often occur in mountainous countries, their beds consisting of hollows or depressions in the land, in which the running waters have accumulated.

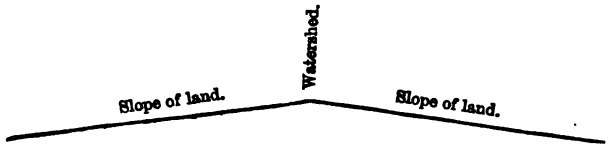
6. A stream of water running through the land is called a *River;* or, if of very small size, a *Rivulet*, or *Brook*. A river generally rises in high ground, and discharges its waters into the sea—sometimes passing through one or more lakes on its way. Almost every place has in its neighbourhood examples of small running streams, or brooks; the junction of several such brooks, so that their waters become united in a larger channel or watercourse, forms a river. The Thames, the Severn, and the Shannon, in our own islands, are among the most prominent examples of rivers; the Danube and the Volga, on the continent of Europe, are instances on a larger scale.

7. A small stream which joins a larger river is called a *Tributary* (or an *Affluent*) of the larger stream. Thus the small river Kennet, in Berkshire, is an affluent of the Thames; and the river Inn is an affluent of the Danube.

8. The whole tract of country which is watered by any river, with its tributaries, is called its *Basin*. Thus we say (in physical geography) the basin of the Thames, the basin of the Danube—meaning thereby the whole dis-

trict through which those streams, with all their affluents, respectively flow.

9. The ground which divides two adjacent streams that flow in opposite directions is called a *Watershed*, or water-parting.



This generally (but by no means always) consists of a high tract of land, sometimes of a chain of mountains; and it is, in every case, formed by ground which is higher than that through which the streams actually flow, for the natural tendency of water is to run down a sloping ground, from a higher to a lower level. Some rivers, however, rise in ground which is nearly level, and at only a trifling height above the sea; and, in such cases, the watershed may consist of ground which does not exhibit any marked elevation above the adjoining plain.

EUROPE.

EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA, AMERICA, AUSTRALIA, and POLYNESIA, are the six great divisions of the earth. Five of the number are continents—the last mentioned of them, Polynesia, consists of a vast number of islands, which lie within the Pacific Ocean.

EUROPE is (next to Australia) the smallest of the continents. It lies entirely within the northern hemisphere, and forms the north-western portion of the Old World.

BOUNDARIES.—Europe is bounded on the north by the Arctic Ocean; on the west by the Atlantic Ocean; on the south by the Mediterranean Sea, the Black Sea, and the chain of Mount Caucasus; and on the east by the river Ural and the range of the Ural Mountains.

EXTENT.—Europe measures about 2500 miles from north to south, and rather more than 3000 miles in its greatest dimensions east and west. Its area, or extent of surface, is 3,700,000 square miles.*

Europe is very irregular in shape. Its outline exhibits a great many indentations, by means of which the waters of the adjoining seas penetrate far into the interior of the land. This circumstance gives to Europe a greater extent of coast-line, in proportion to its size, than is possessed by either of the other continents.

* A square mile is a space which measures one mile each way. It is in square miles that the size of countries is generally expressed. The whole surface of the globe is equal to 197,000,000 of square miles.

PAGE

ASIA, ... 65
Turkey in Asia, ... 71
Arabia, ... 74
Persia, ... 75
Afghanistan and Beloochistan, . . . 77
India, ... 78
Indo-Chinese Countries, ... 83
Chinese Empire, ... 85
Turkestan, ... 88
Asiatic Russia, ... 88
East Indian Archipelago, ... 90
Japan, ... 92

AFRICA, ... 94
Northern Africa (Morocco, Algeria, Tunis, Tripoli), ... 99
The Nile Region (Egypt, Nubia, Abyssinia), . 100
Soudan, or Negro-land, ... 103
Southern Africa (Cape Colony, Natal), . . 105
Islands of Africa, ... 107

NORTH AMERICA, ... 109
British America (Canada, &c.), . . . 114
United States, ... 116
Mexico, ... 119
Central America, ... 119
The West Indies, ... 120

PAGE

SOUTH AMERICA, ... 123
Brazil, ... 126
Guiana, ... 127
Venezuela, New Granada, Ecuador, . . 128
Peru and Bolivia, ... 129
Chili, ... 130
La Plata, ... 130

AUSTRALIA, ... 132

POLYNESIA, ... 136

Within the Arctic Ocean—

Nova Zembla.	Kolgouev Island.	Lofoden Islands.
Vaygatz Island.	Jan Mayen Island.	

Within the Atlantic Ocean—

Iceland.	British Islands.	Azores, or Western Islands.*
Faroe Islands.	Channel Islands.	

In the Baltic Sea—

Zealand.	Bornholm.	Oesel.
Funen.	Gothland.	Dago.
Rugen.	Oland.	Aland Islands.

In the Mediterranean Sea—

Sicily.	Majorca, Minorca, Iviza,	Balearic Islands.	Malta.
Sardinia.			Ionian Islands.
Corsica.			Candia.
Elba.	Lipari Islands.		Negropont, &c.

The British Islands are the most important of the above. They include England, Wales, and Scotland, which together form the island of Great Britain, with Ireland, and a great number of smaller islands adjacent to the larger ones. Great Britain is the largest island in Europe. Sicily is the largest island in the Mediterranean.

MOUNTAINS.—Europe exhibits great variety of surface. The southern parts of it are mountainous; the middle and western parts are less elevated, but may be called hilly; the north-western peninsula (Norway and Sweden) also contains high mountains; but the whole of eastern Europe is a vast and nearly level plain, only diversified by very slight elevations.

The principal mountain-chains of Europe are as follow :—

The Alps.....on the borders of Italy, France, Switzerland, and Germany.
The Apennines .....in Italy.
The Balkan Mountains .....in Turkey.
Mount Pindus .....in Greece.
The Pyrenees .....between France and Spain.
The Sierra Nevada.....in Spain.
The Carpathian Mountains.....in the Austrian empire, between Hungary and Galicia.
The Mountains of Germany .....in Prussia, Bavaria, Saxony, Hanover, Baden, &c.

---

* The Azores lie a long way out in the ocean, 900 miles to the west of Portugal, and are hence too far off to be shown upon the map of Europe.

The Mountains of France.....in the centre and east of France.
The Dovre-field, &c. .....in Norway.
The Ural Mountains .....in Russia, on the east border of Europe.
Mount Caucasus.....in Russia, on the south-east border of Europe.

The Alps are the highest and most extensive among the mountain systems of Europe. They include a great number of snow-covered summits, amongst which is Mont Blanc, 15,700 feet (or nearly three miles) in elevation, and the highest mountain in Europe. Mont Blanc is on the borders of Piedmont and Savoy, within the kingdom of Sardinia. All the higher portions of the Alps are covered with perpetual snow. The continual accumulation of the snow gives rise to *glaciers*, or vast rivers of ice and frozen snow, which descend, with slow but constant motion, the sloping sides of the mountains, and advance far into the valleys beneath.

RIVERS.—The longest river of Europe is the Volga, which flows into the Caspian Sea—really a vast lake, without any outlet. The second in length is the Danube, which discharges into the Black Sea. The river Dnieper, which also flows into the Black Sea, is third in order, and the Don, which runs into the Sea of Azov, comes fourth. These four rivers are all in the east of Europe. The longest river of Western Europe is the Rhine, which flows into the North Sea.

The principal rivers of Europe are named in the following table, in the order of the seas into which they flow :—

Into the White Sea.

Northern Dvina,.....Russia.
Onega, ... Do.

Into the Baltic Sea.

Neva, ...Russia.
Southern Dvina,..... Do.
Niemen, ...Russia, Prussia.
Vistula, ...Poland, Prussia.
Oder, ...Prussia.
Tornea, ...
Lulea, ...
Pitea, ... Sweden.
Umea, ...
Indals, ...
Dal, ...

Into the Caspian Sea.

Volga,.....Russia.
Ural, ... Do.

Into the Mediterranean and its Gulfs.

Ebro, ...Spain.
Rhone, ...Switzerland, France.
Arno,.....Italy.
Tiber, ... Do.
Po, ... Do.
Adige, ... Do.
Maritza, ...Turkey.

Into the Black Sea.

Danube,..... Germany, Hungary, Turkey.
Dniester, ... Austrian Poland, Russia.
Dnieper, ...Russia.
Kouban, ... Do.

Into the Sea of Azov.

Don, ...Russia.

Into the Arctic Ocean.

Petchora, ...Russia.

Into the North Sea, or German Ocean.

Glommen, ...Norway.
Göta, ...Sweden.
Elbe, ...Germany.
Weser, ... Do.
Rhine, ... Switzerland, Germany, Holland.
Meuse, ... France, Belgium, Holland.
Scheldt, ... Do. do. do.
Thames, ...England.
Humber, ... Do.
Tweed, ...Scotland.

Into the English Channel.

Seine, ...France.

Into the Irish Sea.

Mersey, ...England.

Into the Bristol Channel.

Severn, ...England.

Into the Bay of Biscay.

Loire, ...France.
Garonne, ... Do.

Into the Atlantic Ocean.

Minho, ...Spain, Portugal.
Douro, ... Do.
Tagus, ... Do.
Guadiana, ... Do.
Guadalquivir, ...Spain.

Shannon, ...Ireland.

LAKES.—The Caspian Sea, which lies on the borders of Europe and Asia, is really a vast lake, and its water is salt, like that of the open sea. Even small lakes, however, which, like the Caspian, have *no outlet* for their waters, are usually salt. But the water of lakes in general is sweet and fresh. Many lakes (indeed, the greater number) both receive and discharge a running stream. In Switzerland, the Rhone enters the upper extremity of the lake of Geneva, as the Rhine does that of the lake of Constance; and in each instance the stream re-issues from the lower end of the lake.

The principal lakes, with the countries in which they are situated, are as follow:—

Ladoga, ...Russia.
Onega, ... Do.
Saima, ... Do.
Peipous, ... Do.
Enara, ... Do.
Bieloe, ... Do.
Ilmen, ... Do.
Wener, ...Sweden.
Wetter, ... Do.
Maelar, ... Do.
Miösen, ...Norway.
Balaton, or Platten See, ...Hungary.
Neusiedler See, ... Do.

Geneva, ...Switzerland.
Constance, ... Do.
Neufchatel, ... Do.
Lucerne, ... Do.
Zurich, ... Do.
Garda, ...Italy.
Maggiore, ... Do.
Como, ... Do.

Windermere, ...England.
Ulleswater, ... Do.
Coniston, ... Do.
Lomond, ...Scotland.
Neagh, ...Ireland.

Lake Ladoga is the largest lake in Europe; it covers an area greater than that of the county of York. Lake Onega is second in magnitude, Lake Wener third.

CLIMATE.—Nearly the whole of Europe falls within the

north temperate zone. This division of the globe is therefore free alike from the great extremes of heat and cold which belong to other regions.

There are, notwithstanding, great differences between the temperatures experienced in various countries of Europe. There is a gradual diminution of heat in passing from south to north, from the shores of the Mediterranean to those of the Baltic, and from the coasts of the Baltic to those of the Arctic Ocean. The countries of southern Europe are hot, those of middle Europe moderately warm, its more northerly regions cool, and the extreme north intensely cold.

The long days and short nights which distinguish the summer of high latitudes occasion an excessive degree of heat for a brief period, even on the shores of the polar sea. But this is contrasted by the length and severity of the winter within similar localities, when the sun is below the horizon for lengthened periods. The extremes of heat and cold, at the opposite seasons of summer and winter, become, in fact, more strongly marked as we approach the polar circle. Hence, in such countries as Norway, Lapland, Iceland, and the northern part of Russia, there is a short but very hot summer, and a long and intensely severe winter; while in lower latitudes, as in the countries of middle and southern Europe, the seasons of summer and winter present less strongly-marked contrasts.

Another thing that strongly affects the climate of European countries is the influence of the vast ocean which washes its western shores. The countries of western Europe, bordering on the Atlantic, and under the influence of winds which blow from over its vast surface, enjoy greater uniformity of temperature than the countries of eastern Europe, which are so much further removed from the ocean. In other words, the countries of western Europe have cooler summers and milder winters than the countries towards the extreme east of the continent.

A greater quantity of rain falls in the south of Europe than in its middle portions, and more in its middle latitudes than further north. Warm countries, in general, have more rain than cold countries. More rain falls also in the west of Europe than in the east,—a consequence of its proximity to the Atlantic Ocean, the winds blowing from which are abundantly charged with moisture. Along the whole western side of Europe (including the British Islands) westerly winds are generally accompanied with rain, while easterly winds—blowing from over large tracts of land—are dry.

NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.—The natural productions of the earth form three great classes—mineral, vegetable, and animal. To the first belong the metals (as gold, silver, copper, iron, &c.), and the various mineral substances—including coal, salt, marble, building-stones, slates, and others. The second class includes the productions of the vegetable world, from the largest trees of the forest to plants of the minutest size, as mosses and lichens. The third embraces the infinite varieties of animal life—the inhabitants of the land, sea, and air alike. In this last division, the lowest place is occupied by insects; next in order come fishes; and then, successively,

reptiles, birds, and the various land animals, the highest of all being man himself.

MINERALS.—Europe is characterised by the abundance of iron, copper, lead, zinc, and other useful ores, as well as by its valuable coal-fields. It is in Great Britain that the abundant distribution of iron and coal is most strikingly evidenced. Both coal and iron are abundant also in Belgium. Coal occurs in France, Germany, and some other countries of Europe, though much less plentifully In most of the countries of continental Europe, wood serves as the chief fuel. Iron is most plentiful in Great Britain, and next so in Belgium, France, Russia, Sweden and Norway, and parts of Germany. Tin, a valuable metal, is almost confined to England, where it has been worked, from a very early age, in the county of Cornwall. It occurs, in smaller quantity, in the north-west of Spain. The precious metals—gold and silver—are only sparingly found in Europe,—gold in Hungary and Russia; silver in Hungary, parts of Germany, and also in Norway and Spain. Platinum, a valuable metal, is found in Russia, within the region of the Ural Mountains. Quicksilver is supplied by Spain, Austria, and Bavaria. Salt is an abundant produce of Russia, Austrian Poland, England, France, Spain, Portugal, and parts of Germany.

VEGETATION.—The food-plants that are characteristic of temperate latitudes in general thrive in this division of the globe. Wheat, barley, rye, oats, are grown abundantly over the larger portion of Europe, and maize (or Indian corn) in the more southerly division of the continent. Among fruits, the apple, pear, plum, cherry, currant, and gooseberry, belong to the middle latitudes of Europe; the vine to its more southwardly regions; the orange, lemon, citron, and fig, to the shores of the Mediterranean. Of trees, the countries lying to the south of the Alps and the Pyrenees are distinguished by the abundance of evergreens; while the forest-growth of middle and northern Europe is chiefly *deciduous*,* embracing such trees as the oak, ash, beech, elm, larch, willow, alder, maple, sycamore, and the various pines and firs.

ZOOLOGY.—The vast number of domestic cattle that are reared in Europe—either as the food of man or for other uses—constitute, in the present day, the most striking feature of

* Deciduous trees (from the Latin word *decidĕre*, to fall) are those which cast their leaves annually, as distinguished from evergreens, which preserve their foliage through the winter.

its zoology. The sheep, ox, pig, and goat, the horse, ass, and dog, abound in every part of Europe; most of them are, indeed, the uniform companions of man, wheresoever his wanderings extend. The reindeer supplies to the inhabitants of the extreme north of Europe (Lapland) the place of other domestic quadrupeds. The red-deer, the fallow-deer, and others of the same tribe, belong to the lower latitudes of middle Europe. The chamois and the ibex (animals of the goat kind) are native to the high mountain-region of the Alps.

The variety of birds is great. The web-footed tribes (geese, ducks, &c.) are most numerous in high latitudes. The stork, the crane, the heron, the pelican, the spoonbill, and the flamingo, belong to the west and the south of Europe. The vulture and eagle tribe are numerous in the high mountains of the south—that is, the Alps and Pyrenees.

The fisheries of the Mediterranean, Black, Baltic, and Caspian Seas, are all highly valuable. The tunny, which is the largest of edible fish, is found in the Mediterranean. The seas that surround the British Islands contain a vast abundance of such fish as the cod, herring, mackerel, turbot, and pilchard, besides the crab, lobster, prawn, and many others. The salmon abounds in the rivers of northern and western Europe, as it also does in the Volga and other streams of eastern Russia.

The most useful member of the insect tribe—the common honey-bee—is reared in most European countries. The silkworm is numerously reared in the south of Europe—in Italy, Spain, Switzerland, and the south of France. The scorpion is found in the south of Europe.

The *population* of Europe amounts to upwards of 270 millions, or about a fourth part of the entire human race. This shows a much higher ratio of population, as compared to extent of surface, than belongs to either of the other divisions of the globe. The countries of western and southern Europe are its most populous portions; those in the east and north the least so. Nine-tenths of the people of Europe belong to what is called the white or Caucasian division of mankind, distinguished from other members of the human family by the comparative fairness of the skin and the varying colour of the hair and eyes. But there are many differences among the different nations of Europe,—the people who dwell in the southerly portions of the continent being generally darker than the natives of more northwardly lands.

COUNTRIES OF EUROPE.

EUROPE is politically divided into fifty-six States. Many of these, however, are of very small size, so small as to be hardly distinguishable upon the general map of Europe. No fewer than thirty-five of the number belong to Germany, and nine are comprehended within Italy.

The five great powers of Europe are Britain, France, Russia, Austria, and Prussia. The states of second-rate importance are Spain, Turkey, Naples, Sardinia, Sweden, and Holland. Among the third-rate powers are Belgium, Bavaria, Portugal, Denmark, and Hanover.

The names of the principal states into which Europe is divided, with the form of government and capital city of each, are given in the following table :—

States.	*Government.*	*Chief Towns.*
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND...	Kingdom.....	London.
FRANCE	Empire	Paris.
BELGIUM	Kingdom.....	Brussels.
THE NETHERLANDS	Kingdom.....	Amsterdam.
SWITZERLAND	Republic	Berne.
GERMANY:—		
AUSTRIA	Empire	Vienna.
PRUSSIA	Kingdom.....	Berlin.
BAVARIA	Kingdom.....	Munich.
HANOVER.....	Kingdom.....	Hanover.
WURTEMBERG	Kingdom.....	Stuttgard.
BADEN	Grand Duchy...	Carlsruhe.
SAXONY	Kingdom.....	Dresden.
DENMARK.....	Kingdom.....	Copenhagen.
SWEDEN AND NORWAY.....	Kingdom.....	Stockholm.
RUSSIA	Empire	St Petersburg.
TURKEY	Empire	Constantinople.
GREECE.....	Kingdom.....	Athens.
ITALY:—		
SARDINIA	Kingdom.....	Turin.
NAPLES AND SICILY	Kingdom.....	Naples.
STATES OF THE CHURCH ...	Popedom.....	Rome.
TUSCANY	Grand Duchy...	Florence.
SPAIN	Kingdom.....	Madrid.
PORTUGAL	Kingdom.....	Lisbon.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND are the two largest of the British Islands, a group situated in the Atlantic Ocean, off

the western side of the European continent. Great Britain includes England, Wales, and Scotland. Ireland lies to the west of Great Britain, and is divided from it by the Irish Sea.

I.—England and Wales.

Situation and Boundaries.—England is bounded on the north by Scotland; on the east by the German Ocean (or North Sea); on the south by the English Channel; on the west by the Irish Sea, the principality of Wales, and the Atlantic Ocean. Wales is enclosed on three sides—the north, west, and south—by the Irish Sea, St George's Channel, and the Bristol Channel; to the eastward, it adjoins England. England and Wales are so intimately connected that it is convenient to describe them as a single country.

Extent.—The area of England (in round numbers) is 50,000 square miles; of Wales, 7500. Taken together, England and Wales are but a small country, equal in magnitude to scarcely more than one nine-hundredth part of the lands upon the earth's surface.

Capes.—The principal are—

On the East.

Flamborough Head...(Yorkshire.)	The Naze .....(Essex.)
Spurn Head.....(Do.)	North Foreland ...(Kent.)
Lowestoft Ness.....(Suffolk.)	

On the South.

South Foreland.....(Kent.)	St Alban's Head .....(Dorset.)
Dungeness..... (Do.)	Portland Bill..... (Do.)
Beachy Head .....(Sussex.)	Start Point.....(Devon.)
Selsey Bill ..... (Do.)	The Lizard .....(Cornwall.)
St Catherine's Point..(Isle of Wight.)	

On the West.

Land's End.....(Cornwall.)	Great Ormes Head...(Caernarvon.)
Hartland Point.....(Devon.)	Point of Aire .....(Flint.)
Worms Head .....(Glamorgan.)	Formby Point.....(Lancashire.)
St David's Head.....(Pembroke.)	St Bees Head .....(Cumberland.)
Linas Head.....(Isle of Anglesey.)	

Lowestoft Ness is the most easterly point of England, the Lizard is the most southwardly, and the Land's End the most westerly point.

COASTS.—Upon the *East* side of England are the following inlets—

The Humber.	The Wash.	Mouth of the Thames.

On the South Coast are—

Portsmouth Harbour.	Weymouth Bay.	Falmouth Harbour.
Southampton Water.	Tor Bay.	Mount's Bay.
The Solent.	Plymouth Sound.	

On the West Coast are—

Solway Frith.	St Bride's Bay.	Caermarthen Bay.
Morecambe Bay.	Milford Haven.	Swansea Bay.
Menai Strait.	Bristol Channel.	Barnstaple Bay.
Cardigan Bay.		

MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS.—The surface of England exhibits, in general, a succession of gentle slopes or undulations, which rise in some places into hills. Wales is chiefly mountainous.

The high grounds of England and Wales lie principally upon the western side of the island. They include (taking them from north to south), the Pennine Chain, the Cumbrian Mountains, the Welsh Mountains, and the high grounds of Cornwall and Devon.

1. The high grounds forming the Pennine Chain extend from the Cheviot Hills (on the borders of England and Scotland) to the district of the Peak, in Derbyshire, lying nearly along the line of division between the six northern counties of England.

2. The Cumbrian Hills are a group in the counties of Cumberland, Westmoreland, and northern Lancashire, near the coast of the Irish Sea. They contain the highest elevation in England—Scaw Fell, 3229 feet above the level of the sea. Skiddaw and Helvellyn, in the same group, are nearly as high.

3. The Welsh Mountains spread over the greater part of Wales, and reach a greater elevation than any of the English mountains. Snowdon, in the county of Caernarvon, 3590 feet, is the highest among them. Cader Idris, Plinlimmon, the Beacons of Brecknock, and many others, are lofty and well-known points.

4. The high grounds of Devonshire and Cornwall are less elevated, but impart a varied and often rugged surface to the south-west corner of the island. Dartmoor, in Devonshire, reaches 1792 feet above the sea. Brown Willy, in Cornwall, is 1364 feet.

To the eastward of the above tracts, the elevations are much less conspicuous: few points reach more than a thousand feet above the sea-level, and most of them are considerably below that altitude. The more important of these lower heights, with the counties in which they are situated, are:—

North York Moors...	Yorkshire.	Cotswold Hills.....	Gloucester.
Wolds.....	Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.	Mendip Hills.....	Somerset.
		Quantock Hills.....	Do.
Chiltern Hills	Buckingham and Oxford.	Blackdown Hills.....	Do.
		Exmoor.....	Somerset and Devon.
Clee Hills	Shropshire.	Salisbury Plain	Wiltshire.
The Wrekin	Do.	North Downs	Kent & Surrey.
Malvern Hills	Worcester and Hereford.	South Downs	Sussex and Hampshire.
Clent Hills.....	Worcester.		

RIVERS.—The principal rivers of England and Wales are—

On the East, flowing into the German Ocean—

Tyne.	Witham.	Yare.	Blackwater.
Wear.	Welland.	Orwell.	Thames.
Tees.	Nen.	Stour (Essex.)	Medway.
Humber { Ouse. Trent.	Great Ouse.	Colne.	Stour (Kent.)

The Humber, which is rather an arm of the sea than a river, is formed by the junction of the Ouse (of Yorkshire) and the Trent. The Ouse receives the Swale, Yore, Wharfe, Nidd, Aire (with its tributary, the Calder), Don, and Derwent. The Trent is joined by another river, Derwent, and also by the Dove and the Soar. The Thames is joined by the streams of the Cherwell, Thame, Kennet, Wey, Mole, and Medway.

The river Thames is the most important river in the British Islands, since it has London, the metropolis of the British empire, upon its banks. The Thames rises near the eastern foot of the Cotswold Hills, and has a course of 215 miles to the sea.

On the South, flowing into the English Channel—

Rother.	Itchen.	Froom.	Teign.
Ouse (Sussex.)	Anton, or Test.	Axe.	Dart.
Adur.	Avon (Salisbury.)	Otter.	Tamar.
Arun.	Stour (Dorset.)	Exe.	Fal.

The Salisbury Avon, the Axe, and the Tamar, are the three longest of the above.

On the West,

Flowing into the Irish Sea—		*Flowing into the Bristol Channel—*	
Eden.	Ribble.	Towy.	Severn.
Derwent.	Mersey.	Tawe.	Avon (Bristol.)
Kent.	Dee.	Neath.	Parret.
Lune.	Conway.	Usk.	Tawe.
Wyre.	Teify.	Wye.	Torridge.

The Severn is the longest river of England and Wales. It rises upon Plinlimmon (one of the Welsh Mountains), and has a course of 240 miles to the sea.

The Severn is joined by the Virnwy, the Tern, the Stour (of Stafford and Worcestershires,) the Teme, and the Upper Avon—or Avon of Warwick and Stratford.*

LAKES.—The English lakes are nearly all found within the region of the Cumbrian Mountains. The largest are Windermere, Ulleswater, Coniston, Derwent Water, Bassenthwaite, Crummock, and Wast Water. In Wales, are lake Bala, the Lakes of Llanberris, Llyn Conway, and Brecknock-mere.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate of England is temperate and healthy—more moderate, both in regard to heat and cold, than that of countries on the neighbouring continent. Rain is abundant, more so on the western side of the island than elsewhere, owing to its position with regard to the Atlantic Ocean.

The mineral produce of England and Wales is exceedingly rich. Coal and iron, with copper, lead, zinc, tin, and other valuable ores—all of the highest utility to civilised man—occur plentifully in different parts of the country, and are largely worked. In the value of its coal-fields and iron-works, Britain surpasses any other country on the globe.

The coal-fields of England are found chiefly in the northern and midland counties, and yield an inexhaustible supply of that fuel. South Wales also includes a rich and extensive coal-field.

Iron-ore occurs abundantly within the limits of nearly all the coal-districts, and is most extensively worked in South Wales, together with the counties of Stafford, York, Durham, Shropshire, Derbyshire, and Northumberland.

Lead is principally worked in Derbyshire, Northumberland, Cumberland, North and South Wales, and Devonshire. Copper and tin belong chiefly (the latter entirely) to the counties of Cornwall and Devon. Cheshire furnishes an abundant supply of salt, from the brine-springs and mines in the valley of the river Weaver, which joins the Mersey.

Good marbles and building-stones are derived from the northern and north-midland districts of the country, as well

* Numerous rivers, in different parts of Britain, bear the name of Avon. In the language of the Celts, the ancient inhabitants of Britain, the word signified a running stream. The three rivers referred to above are the most important of the Avons.

as from its south-western peninsula. Slate is extensively quarried in Wales, and in the mountain region of Cumberland and Westmoreland.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRIAL PURSUITS.—England and Wales contain 18,000,000 inhabitants. In proportion to extent of surface, England is more populous than any other country of Europe, with the exception of Belgium.

The agricultural districts of England are found chiefly in the east and south: the manufacturing districts belong to the northern, north-midland, and western counties. Wheat, oats, barley, and rye, are the grains most largely grown: wheat most extensively in the south-eastern counties, barley in the eastern and midland counties, oats within the district of the Fens, and in the north. Hops are cultivated chiefly in Kent and Surrey, and in the counties of Worcester and Hereford. The potatoe is very largely grown in Lancashire, Cumberland, and Cheshire; the turnip chiefly in Norfolk. Rape is much cultivated in Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire; hemp and flax in the counties of Lincoln and Suffolk. Hereford and Devon are distinguished for the extensive culture of the apple, from which cider is largely made.

England ranks first among the nations of the world in regard to manufactures and foreign trade.

Cotton, wool, and iron, are the three great staples of the manufacturing industry of Britain. The *first*, which is a vegetable material—the pod of the cotton-plant—is derived chiefly from the United States of America. The *second*, which belongs to the animal kingdom, is furnished by the fleeces of the sheep reared upon our plains and downs, together with a large quantity imported from other lands—principally Australia. The *third*, a mineral ore, is supplied in exhaustless abundance by the English soil.

The southern division of Lancashire, and the adjoining part of Cheshire, are the great seat of the *cotton* manufacture, which employs a much larger number of artisans than any other single branch of British industry. Manchester is the centre and capital of the cotton manufacture, and Liverpool is its port. The West Riding of Yorkshire is the chief seat of the *woollen* manufacture, and the towns of Leeds and Bradford are its principal centres of industry. The south part of Staffordshire, and the adjacent portions of Warwick, Worcester, and Shropshire, are the chief seat of the manufacture of *iron and hardware* goods, and the town of Birmingham

is the manufacturing capital of the district. Sheffield, in Yorkshire, is the chief seat of one branch of the hardware trade—the making of cutlery.

Other manufactures are carried on extensively in England, but none upon a scale of such magnitude as the three above named. The silk and linen manufactures, the making of hosiery and lace, the leather manufacture, those of earthenware and glass, of watches and clocks, of paper, and a vast variety of others, are all of importance.

The foreign commerce of England extends to every part of the globe. The *import* of raw materials, and the *export* of manufactured goods, are its distinguishing features. Sugar, coffee, spices, and other productions foreign to the English soil, are imported from the East and West Indies; tea from China; tobacco from the United States and elsewhere; timber from Canada and the countries round the Baltic; wines and spirits from France, Spain, and Portugal; hides, skins, and tallow, from South America, the Cape of Good Hope, and Russia.

The countries to which the largest quantities of British manufactures and other produce are exported, are the United States of America, the Australian Colonies, the East Indies, Germany, Prussia, Holland, Canada, with Brazil, Turkey, France, Russia, Italy, China, the West Indies, &c.

COUNTIES AND TOWNS.—England and Wales are divided into fifty-two counties: England contains forty of the number, and Wales twelve. The counties are very unequal in point of size. Rutland is the smallest county of England, and Yorkshire the largest. Lincoln, Devon, and Norfolk, come next to Yorkshire in order of size.

The English counties are divided, with reference to relative situation, into six northern, six western, five eastern, nine southern, and fourteen midland counties.

The six northern counties are Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire, Cumberland, Westmoreland, Lancashire.

The six western counties are Cheshire, Shropshire, Herefordshire, Monmouthshire, Gloucestershire, and Somerset.

The five eastern counties are Lincoln, Cambridge, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex.

The nine southern counties are Kent, Surrey, Sussex,

Berkshire, Hampshire, Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, Devon, and Cornwall.

The fourteen midland counties are Stafford, Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, Warwick, Worcester, Oxford, Buckingham, Middlesex, Hertford, Bedford, Huntingdon, Northampton, and Rutland. The first six are sometimes distinguished as the *north-midland* district, and the remainder as the *south-midland*. Middlesex is termed the metropolitan county, since it contains London, the capital of the British empire.

In each county, the town in which the assizes (or courts for the trial of offences against the law) are periodically held, is termed the county-town. This ranks as the capital of the county, though it does not always coincide with the largest town which the county may contain.

---

1. MIDDLESEX contains the chief part of London, and also the small towns of Brentford, Uxbridge, and Staines.

London, the capital of the British empire, is situated on the river Thames, and contains, with its suburbs, upwards of two and a quarter millions of inhabitants. Besides the City, properly so called, London includes Westminster (formerly a separate place, and still preserving the privileges of a distinct city) and Southwark, with other extensive outlying districts. Southwark is upon the southern side of the Thames, and within the county of Surrey. London contains the cathedral church of St Paul's, and constitutes a bishop's see.

2. HERTFORDSHIRE contains the towns of *Hertford*,* Ware, St Albans, Hitchin, and Barnet. Hertford is on the river Lea. St Albans was the scene of two of the battles fought during the wars of the Roses (1455 and 1461). Barnet was the scene of a later engagement, belonging to the same period of history, in which the famous Earl of Warwick was slain, 1471.

3. BUCKINGHAMSHIRE contains the towns of *Buckingham* (on the river Ouse), Aylesbury, Great Marlow, and Wycombe.

4. OXFORDSHIRE contains the cathedral city of *Oxford*, seated at the junction of the Cherwell and the Thames, and famous for its university. It includes also the towns of Banbury, Witney, Henley, and Woodstock.

5. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE—chief towns, *Northampton*, Peterborough, Wellingborough, and Daventry. Northampton and Peterborough are both on the river Nen. Peterborough is a cathedral city. Naseby, the scene of Cromwell's victory over Charles I., in 1645, is in this county.

6. BEDFORDSHIRE—chief towns, *Bedford* (on the river Ouse), Luton, Dunstable, and Woburn.

7. HUNTINGDONSHIRE—chief towns, *Huntingdon* (on the Ouse), St Ives, and St Neots.

8. RUTLANDSHIRE—chief towns, *Oakham* and Uppingham.

9. LEICESTERSHIRE has for its capital *Leicester*, on the river Soar (an affluent of the Trent), distinguished for its manufacture of woollen stockings. The other towns are Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Loughborough, Hinckley, and Melton Mowbray. Bosworth, the scene of the battle in which Richard III. lost his life, is in this county.

---

* The county-town is distinguished by *italic* letters.

10. WARWICKSHIRE—chief towns, *Warwick*, Birmingham, Coventry, Rugby, and Stratford-upon-Avon. Warwick (as well as Stratford, the birthplace of Shakspeare) is on the river Avon. Birmingham is the centre of the hardware manufactures. The battle of Edgehill (1642) was fought in this county, near the Oxfordshire border.

11. WORCESTERSHIRE has for its chief town the cathedral city of *Worcester*, on the river Severn. The other towns are Kidderminster, Dudley, Stourbridge, Stourport, and Evesham.

12. STAFFORDSHIRE—chief towns, *Stafford*, Wolverhampton, West Bromwich, Walsall, Bilston, Wednesbury, Stoke-upon-Trent, Lichfield, and Tamworth. Lichfield is a cathedral city. The south part of this county abounds in coal-pits and iron-works; the north part includes the tract known as the Potteries, from the extensive manufacture of earthenware carried on there.

13. DERBYSHIRE—chief towns, *Derby* (on the river Derwent, an affluent of the Trent), Chesterfield, Wirksworth, Ashbourne, Buxton, and Matlock. Derbyshire includes the romantic district of the Peak. Matlock and Buxton are noted for their mineral waters.

14. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE—chief towns, *Nottingham* (noted for its cotton-stocking and lace manufactures), Newark, Mansfield, and Worksop. Both Nottingham and Newark are on the river Trent.

15. NORTHUMBERLAND has for its county town *Newcastle-upon-Tyne*, the great seat of the coal trade. Its other towns are North Shields, Tynemouth, Berwick, Alnwick, Morpeth, and Hexham. Berwick is at the mouth of the river Tweed, close to the Scotch border. The battle of Flodden (1513) was fought in this county, near the east foot of the Cheviot Hills.

16. DURHAM—chief towns, *Durham* (a cathedral city on the river Wear), Sunderland, Stockton, Hartlepool, and South Shields. Sunderland is at the mouth of the river Wear; Stockton is on the Tees.

17. YORKSHIRE is divided into three *ridings*—the North, East, and West ridings. The last named is the most populous, and includes nearly all the larger towns. The capital of the county is *York*, an archiepiscopal city on the Ouse. Among the numerous other towns are Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield, Huddersfield, Halifax, Wakefield, Barnsley, Dewsbury, Doncaster, and Ripon—all of them in the West Riding. Leeds (on the river Aire) and Bradford are the largest seats of the woollen manufacture. Sheffield (at the junction of the little river Sheaf with the Don) is noted for its cutlery. Ripon, on the Ure (or Yore), an affluent of the Yorkshire Ouse, is a cathedral city.

The towns in the East Riding of Yorkshire are Hull, Beverley, and Bridlington. Those in the North Riding are Scarborough, Whitby, Malton, Richmond, and North Allerton. Hull is an important seaport on the north bank of the Humber estuary.

The battle of Marston Moor, gained by the Parliamentary forces over the army of Charles I., in 1644, was fought in this county, a few miles west of York, as also were those of Wakefield and Towton (1460 and 1461), during the wars of the Roses.

18. CUMBERLAND contains *Carlisle* (a cathedral city on the river Eden), Whitehaven, Workington, Maryport, Cockermouth, Penrith, and Keswick. Whitehaven has valuable coal-mines. Keswick is in the heart of the Lake district.

19. WESTMORELAND—chief towns, *Appleby* and Kendal. The latter is on the river Kent, which flows into Morecambe Bay.

20. LANCASHIRE has for its capital the town of *Lancaster*, on the river Lune, but the two largest towns are Liverpool and Manchester, the great seats of the cotton trade. Liverpool is at the mouth of the Mersey. Manchester is on the river Irwell, which joins the Mersey, and is a cathedral city.

The other towns are Preston, Bolton, Oldham, Blackburn, Wigan, Rochdale, Ashton-under-Lyne, Staley-Bridge, Warrington, and Ulverston.

21. CHESHIRE has for its capital the cathedral city of *Chester*, on the river Dee. The other towns are Stockport, Macclesfield, Birkenhead, Nantwich,

Middlewich, and Northwich—the three last named famous for their salt works.

22. SHROPSHIRE—chief towns, *Shrewsbury* (on the river Severn), Bridgenorth, Wellington, Ludlow, and Oswestry. The hill called the Wrekin is a few miles east of Shrewsbury.

23. HEREFORDSHIRE has the cathedral city of *Hereford* (on the river Wye) for its capital, and contains, besides, the towns of Leominster, Ledbury, and Ross.

24. MONMOUTHSHIRE—chief towns, *Monmouth* (at the junction of the river Munnow with the Wye), Newport, Abergavenny, Pontypool, and Chepstow. Newport is at the mouth of the river Usk, Chepstow at the mouth of the Wye.

25. GLOUCESTERSHIRE—chief towns, *Gloucester* (on the Severn), Cheltenham, Stroud, Cirencester, and Tewkesbury. Bristol, on the Lower Avon, is partly in this county and partly in Somerset. Both Gloucester and Bristol are cathedral cities. Bristol, although several miles above the sea, is an important and flourishing port.

26. SOMERSETSHIRE—chief towns, *Bath*, Wells, Taunton, Frome, Bridgewater, and Yeovil. Bath, situated on the river Avon, and Wells, at the foot of the Mendip Hills, are both cathedral cities. Athelney, Alfred the Great's temporary place of concealment from the Danes, was in this county, near the junction of the rivers Tone and Parret. Sedgemoor, the scene of James II.'s victory over Monmouth—the last battle fought upon English ground—is also in Somersetshire.

27. LINCOLNSHIRE has for its capital *Lincoln*, an ancient cathedral city on the river Witham. Its other towns are Boston, Grimsby, Gainsborough, Stamford, and Louth. Boston and Grimsby are ports.

28. CAMBRIDGESHIRE—chief towns, *Cambridge*, Wisbeach, Ely, and Newmarket. Cambridge, on the river Cam, is famous for its ancient university. Ely, on the Ouse, is a cathedral city.

29. NORFOLK has for its capital the cathedral city of *Norwich*, situated on the river Wensum, which joins the Yare. Of its other towns, the principal are Yarmouth and King's Lynn.

30. SUFFOLK—chief towns, *Ipswich* (on the river Orwell), Bury St Edmunds, Lowestoft, and Sudbury. Lowestoft is situated at the easternmost extremity of Britain.

31. ESSEX—chief towns, *Chelmsford* (on the river Chelmer), Colchester, Harwich, and Saffron-Walden. Harwich is a port at the mouth of the river Stour.

32. KENT—chief towns, *Maidstone* (on the river Medway), Canterbury, Chatham, Rochester, Woolwich, Dover, Folkestone, Gravesend, Sheerness, Margate, and Ramsgate.

Canterbury, on the river Stour, is an ancient cathedral city, the ecclesiastical metropolis of England. Rochester, on the Medway (adjoining Chatham), is also a cathedral city. Dover is a seaport situated at the point where England makes nearest approach to the French coast, which is only 21 miles distant. Both Ramsgate and Margate are on the Isle of Thanet. Sheerness is on the Isle of Sheppey.

33. SURREY includes the south part of London. The county-town is *Guildford*, on the river Wey. The other towns are Croydon, Richmond, Kingston, and Epsom. Runnymead, where Magna Charta was signed by King John in 1215, is within the north-western border of this county, upon the south bank of the Thames.

34. SUSSEX—chief towns, *Lewes*, Brighton, Hastings, Chichester, and Worthing. The battle of Hastings, between the armies of William the Conqueror and Harold, A.D. 1066, was fought a few miles to the north-west of Hastings, where the small town of Battle now stands. Chichester is a cathedral city.

35. BERKSHIRE—chief towns, *Reading*, Windsor, Abingdon, Maidenhead, Newbury, and Wantage. Two battles were fought at Newbury during the Civil War, in 1643 and 1644.

36. HAMPSHIRE—chief towns, *Winchester*, Portsmouth, and Southampton. Winchester is an ancient cathedral city, the former capital of the West Saxon kings. Portsmouth and Southampton are important seaports.

The Isle of Wight belongs (excepting for parliamentary purposes) to Hampshire. It contains the towns of Newport, Ryde, Cowes, and Ventnor.

37. WILTSHIRE has for its capital the cathedral city of *Salisbury*, on the river Avon. Its other towns are Devizes, Bradford, Trowbridge, Warminster, and Marlborough. Stonehenge, an ancient Druidical monument, is in this county.

38. DORSETSHIRE—chief towns, *Dorchester*, Weymouth, Poole, and Bridport.

39. DEVONSHIRE—chief towns, *Exeter*, Plymouth, Barnstaple, Bideford, Tiverton, Tavistock, Dartmouth, Teignmouth, and Torquay.

Exeter is a cathedral city on the river Axe. Plymouth (with the adjoining town of Devonport) is a flourishing port, on the estuary of Plymouth Sound.

40. CORNWALL—chief towns, *Bodmin*, Truro, Penzance, Falmouth, St Austell, and Launceston. This county is famous for its tin and copper mines. The Scilly Islands, at the entrance of the English Channel, belong to Cornwall.

WALES.—Six of the counties are in North Wales, and six in South Wales. The six counties of North Wales are Anglesea, Caernarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, and Montgomery.

The six counties of South Wales are Cardigan, Radnor, Brecknock, Glamorgan, Caermarthen, and Pembroke.

The chief towns in each of the Welsh counties are named below, the county town being distinguished by *italics*:—

Counties.	*Towns.*
ANGLESEA	Holyhead, *Beaumaris.*
CAERNARVONSHIRE	*Caernarvon*, Bangor, Conway.
DENBIGHSHIRE	*Denbigh*, Wrexham, Ruthin.
FLINTSHIRE	Holywell, *Mold*, Flint, St Asaph.
MERIONETHSHIRE	*Dolgelly*, Bala.
MONTGOMERYSHIRE	Newtown, Welshpool, *Montgomery.*
CARDIGANSHIRE	Aberystwith, *Cardigan.*
RADNORSHIRE	*New Radnor*, Presteign, Knighton.
BRECKNOCKSHIRE	*Brecon*, Hay, Builth.
GLAMORGANSHIRE	Merthyr-Tydvil, Swansea, *Cardiff*, Neath, Llandaff.
CAERMARTHENSHIRE	*Caermarthen*, Llanelly, Llandeilo.
PEMBROKESHIRE	*Pembroke*, Haverfordwest, Tenby, Milford, St David's.

Merthyr-Tydvil, which is within the South Wales coal-field, and forms the centre of coal and iron works upon a scale of great magnitude, is the largest town in Wales. *Swansea* and *Cardiff* are next in size, and are the chief ports of the coal and iron district. *Milford*, in Pembrokeshire, stands on the shore of Milford Haven, a magnificent natural harbour. *Holyhead* is on a small islet (Holy Island) which nearly adjoins the coast of Anglesea. The channel which separates the Isle of Anglesea from the mainland is called the Menai Strait.

The Isle of Man forms a dependency of the English Crown, but is not included within any of the counties. Its largest town is *Douglas*, but *Castletown* ranks as the capital.

II.—SCOTLAND.

SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, AND EXTENT.—Scotland is divided from England by the Cheviot Hills, the Solway Frith, and the lower course of the river Tweed. It is bounded on the north and west by the Atlantic Ocean; on the south by England; and on the east by the North Sea. Its area is about 30,000 square miles.

CAPES.—The principal are—

On the North—

Dunnet Head .....(Caithness.)

On the East—

Duncansby Head .....(Caithness.)
Tarbet Ness .....(Cromarty.)
Kinnaird's Head.....(Aberdeen.)
Buchan Ness ..... (Do.)
Button Ness.....(Forfar.)
Fife Ness .....(Fife.)
St Abb's Head.....(Berwick.)

On the West—

Cape Wrath .....(Sutherland.)
Ardnamurchan Point...(Argyle.)
Mull of Cantire..... (Do.)
Corsill Point .....(Wigton.)

On the South—

Mull of Galloway.....(Wigton.)
Burrow Head ..... (Do.)

COASTS.—The coasts of Scotland are more irregular than those of England, especially on the west and south. The broader inlets are generally known as *friths*, the narrow inlets bear the name of *lochs*.

On the East side of Scotland are—

Frith of Forth. | Frith of Tay. | Moray Frith. | Cromarty Frith.

On the West coast are—

Loch Broom.	Frith of Clyde.	Glenluce Bay.
Loch Linnhe.	Loch Long.	Wigton Bay.
Loch Fyne.	Loch Ryan.	Solway Frith.

ISLANDS.—The principal are the Shetland Islands, the Orkney Islands, the Hebrides or Western Islands, and the islands in the Frith of Clyde.

The Shetland Islands are the most northerly portion of the British archipelago. The Orkney Islands are divided from the mainland by the Pentland Frith. The Hebrides include a great number of islands situated off the western coasts of Scotland: the largest among them are Lewis, Skye, Mull, Jura, and Islay. The small islets of Iona and Staffa, lying off the west side of Mull, are famous—Iona

for its remains of ancient churches, and Staffa for its basaltic cavern.

The islands in the Frith of Clyde consist of Arran and Bute (which together form one of the counties of Scotland), with a few smaller islets.

MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS.—In Scotland, as in England, the higher grounds lie chiefly on the western side of the island. But mountains cover a much larger proportional extent of Scotland than is the case with the English hills, and they reach a greater height. Scotland is principally mountainous, and its plains are of limited extent.

Scotland is naturally divided into the Highlands and the Lowlands. The Highlands embrace the northern and western portions of the country; the Lowlands its southern and eastern districts. The Lowlands of Scotland, however, are by no means level. They embrace numerous hilly tracts, but the hills are less elevated, and of more rounded form, with broader valleys between, than is the case in the Highlands.

The highest mountains of Scotland are the Grampians, which stretch across the country in the direction of east and west. Ben Nevis, which is the highest of the Grampians, reaches 4406 feet above the sea, and is the highest mountain, not only in Scotland, but in the British Islands. The Grampians spread over a large portion of the Highlands.

Among the other elevated districts of Scotland are—

Sidlaw Hills.....	(Forfarshire and Perthshire.)	Pentland Hills.....	(Edinburghshire.)
Ochill Hills	(Fifeshire.)	Lammermoor Hills.....	(Haddington and Berwick.)

The division between the Highlands and the Lowlands is marked by a broad plain, called Strathmore, which stretches across the island in the direction of north-east and south-west, from near Stonehaven on the North Sea, to Dumbarton on the Clyde. A narrower valley, called Glenmore, extends through the Highland region, and forms a complete natural division across the island.

RIVERS.—Most of the larger rivers of Scotland belong to the east side of the island, and discharge their waters into the North Sea. The chief of them are the Tweed, the Forth, the Tay, the Dee, the Don, the Spey, and the Ness. Those on the west and south-west coasts are the Clyde, the Ayr, and the Nith.

The longest river of Scotland is the Tay. The Clyde and the Tweed are next in point of length. The Clyde is com-

mercially the most important of the Scotch rivers. Few of the others are deep enough for ship-navigation. Many of the smaller streams form waterfalls, or cascades, in their passage through the hilly portions of the country.

LAKES.—Scotland abounds in lakes, especially its Highland region. Most of them are of long and narrow shape. The largest is Loch Lomond,* which borders on the counties of Stirling and Dumbarton. The mountain called Ben Lomond rises above its eastern shore.

The other principal lakes are Loch Tay (Perthshire), Loch Awe (Argyle), Loch Ness (Inverness), Loch Maree (Ross), and Loch Leven (Kinross).

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate of Scotland is slightly colder than that of England. Within the Highlands, especially, the winter is more severe; rain is also more abundant there than in the Lowland region. The vegetation consists, for the most part, of plants of hardier growth than those of England. The Scotch fir, and other members of the pine tribe, are abundant upon the mountain-sides, and the heather imparts its purple colour to their lower slopes. Several of the richer fruits and plants that thrive on the southern coasts of England (as the peach and apricot) will not come to perfection in Scotland; and the hardier grains—oats and barley—are those most generally grown. Fine crops of wheat, however, are grown in many districts of southern Scotland.

The mineral resources of Scotland are very great. Coal and iron occur in vast abundance within an extensive district of the Lowlands, stretching from Fifeshire on the east coast to the Frith of Clyde on the west. Lead is worked in some districts of southern Scotland. Good building-stone also occurs there. Granite is obtained from the Grampians, and also from the Isle of Arran, and some other localities.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—Scotland is much less populous than England. In 1851 it contained 2,870,000 inhabitants. The Lowlands are throughout much more fully populated than the Highlands.

* The term *loch* is uniformly given to lakes in Scotland, as it also is to the narrow inlets of the sea upon the western and northern coasts, such as Loch Fyne, and others. There is, however, an important difference between the two. The inland *lochs*, such as Loch Lomond, have *fresh water*, like the lakes of England and other countries. The lochs that lie along the coast, such as Loch Fyne, are arms of the sea, and consist, consequently, of salt water.

The people of the Highlands and the Lowlands are distinct races, speaking different tongues. The language of the Lowlanders resembles the English tongue; the Highlanders speak a dialect called the Gaelic, but they are gradually becoming trained to the use of the English language.

Manufactures and commerce are largely pursued in Lowland Scotland, chiefly within the coal and iron district between the Clyde and the Forth, and in the counties of Fife and Forfar, upon the eastern coast. The cotton manufacture, which is the first in order of importance, characterises Glasgow and the neighbouring parts of Lanark and Renfrew: the linen manufacture is found chiefly towards the east coast — at Dundee (in Forfar), and Dunfermline (in Fifeshire). The making of woollen fabrics, as tartans (or plaids), carpets, &c., is pursued in many parts of the Lowlands, especially in the neighbourhood of Stirling and Kilmarnock.

In the Highlands the rearing of cattle and the fisheries are the principal branches of industry. In the southern Lowlands, also, great numbers of cattle are reared.

COUNTIES AND TOWNS.—Scotland is divided into thirty-three counties. They are of very unequal size. Clackmannanshire, the smallest, is only one-third part the size of Rutland. Inverness-shire, the largest among them, is nearly four-fifths the size of Yorkshire.

Thirteen of the counties are within that portion of Scotland which lies to the south of the Friths of Forth and Clyde, and are entirely within the Lowlands. The names of these thirteen are Edinburgh, Linlithgow, Haddington, Berwick, Roxburgh, Selkirk, Peebles, Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Wigton, Ayr, Lanark, and Renfrew.

Three of the counties that are to the northward of the Frith of Forth are also wholly within the Lowland region—namely, Fife, Kinross, and Clackmannan.

In all, therefore, sixteen of the counties are comprised entirely within the Lowlands. Of the others, several are partly Lowland counties, and partly within the Highlands. All the counties that extend along the eastern coast —Perth, Forfar, Kincardine, &c.—belong in part to the Lowland region; but they stretch westward into the rugged mountain-region of the interior, and their larger portion falls within the Highland limits.

Bute, Argyle, Inverness, Ross, Cromarty, and Sutherland, are almost exclusively Highland counties. Portions of Stirling, Dumbarton, Perth, Forfar, Kincardine, Aberdeen, Banff, Elgin, Nairn, and Caithness, are Highland. Buteshire consists of the two large islands of Arran and Bute, in the Frith of Clyde, with a few smaller islets. The Orkney and Shetland Islands

form a distinct county. Of the Hebrides, some belong to Argyle, some to Inverness, and others to Ross.

1. EDINBURGHSHIRE (or Mid-Lothian) is the metropolitan county of Scotland. It contains the city of *Edinburgh*, the capital of Scotland, which occupies a commanding position about two miles south of the Frith of Forth; its ancient castle crowns the summit of a high rock which rises in the heart of the town. Adjoining Edinburgh is the port of Leith, on the shore of the neighbouring frith, which is lined, on either side of Leith, by thriving ports and fishing villages. The battle of Pinkie (1547) was fought near Musselburgh, one of these, situated at the eastern extremity of the county, where the little river Esk enters the sea. Edinburgh is the seat of a university.

2. LINLITHGOWSHIRE (or West-Lothian)—chief towns, *Linlithgow* and Bathgate.

3. HADDINGTONSHIRE (or East-Lothian)—chief towns, *Haddington*, Dunbar, North Berwick, and Prestonpans. Dunbar fills an important place in Scottish annals, and, besides its many sieges, has had two important battles fought in its neighbourhood (in 1296 and 1650.) Prestonpans is noted for the victory gained by the followers of Prince Charles Edward, over the English, in 1745.

4. BERWICKSHIRE (or the Merse) contains the towns of *Greenlaw*, Dunse, Coldstream, and Eyemouth.

5. ROXBURGHSHIRE—chief towns, *Jedburgh*, Hawick, and Kelso. Abbotsford, the residence of Sir Walter Scott, and Melrose, his burial-place, are both in this county, upon the banks of the Tweed.

6. SELKIRKSHIRE—chief towns, *Selkirk*, and Galashiels.

7. PEEBLESSHIRE—chief towns, *Peebles*, and Inverleithen.

8. DUMFRIESSHIRE—chief towns, *Dumfries*, Annan, and Moffat. The town of Dumfries stands on the river Nith, near its mouth, and is the chief market for agricultural produce in the south of Scotland.

9. KIRKCUDBRIGHT—chief town, *Kirkcudbright*, on the little river Dee.

10. WIGTONSHIRE—chief towns, *Wigton*, Stranraer, and Port Patrick. The last-named place is only 22 miles distant from Donaghadee, on the coast of Ireland.

11. AYRSHIRE—chief towns, *Ayr*, Kilmarnock, Ardrossan, Saltcoats, Troon, and Girvan. The birthplace of Burns is a short distance from the town of Ayr, on the banks of the Doon. Kilmarnock, on the river Irvine, has extensive woollen manufactures.

12. LANARKSHIRE has for its county-town *Lanark*, in upper Clydesdale. But Glasgow, on the Clyde, is its most important place, and is the great seat of Scotch manufactures and commerce. Glasgow is the seat of a university. The towns of Airdrie and Hamilton are in this county.

13. RENFREWSHIRE—chief towns, *Renfrew*, Paisley, Port Glasgow, Greenock, and Johnston. Paisley is largest in size, and shares in the manufacturing prosperity of Glasgow.

14. STIRLINGSHIRE—chief towns, *Stirling*, Falkirk, and Kilsyth. Stirling stands beside the river Forth, and is conspicuous by its ancient castle, which crowns the summit of a lofty rock. Adjoining Stirling are St Ninians and Bannockburn, the latter noted for the great victory of Bruce, in 1314.

15. CLACKMANNANSHIRE—chief towns, *Clackmannan* and Alloa.

16. KINROSS—chief town, *Kinross*, situated on the shore of Loch Leven, an island in which was the scene of the confinement of Mary Queen of Scots, in 1568.

17. FIFESHIRE—chief towns, *Cupar*, Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy, and St Andrews. The last-named is the seat of a university.

18. PERTHSHIRE—chief towns, *Perth*, Dunblane, Doune, Dunkeld, and Crieff. Perth is a fine city on the river Tay. The western part of the county includes the district of the Trosachs, famed for its scenic beauties.

19.—FORFARSHIRE (or Angus)—chief towns, *Forfar*, Dundee, Montrose,

Arbroath, Brechin, and Cupar-Angus. Dundee is a large and flourishing port, on the Frith of Tay.

20. KINCARDINE (or the Mearns)—chief towns, *Stonehaven* and Bervie.

21. ABERDEENSHIRE has for its capital the city of *Aberdeen*, situated between the mouths of the rivers Dee and Don. Aberdeen is a flourishing port, and the seat of a university. The other towns are Peterhead, Fraserburgh, and Inverury. Balmoral, the Highland residence of her Majesty Queen Victoria, is in this county, on the south bank of the Dee.

22. BANFFSHIRE—chief towns, *Banff* (on the river Doveran), Portsoy, and Cullen.

23. ELGIN (or Moray)—chief towns, *Elgin* and Forres.

24. NAIRNSHIRE—chief town, *Nairn*, on a river of the same name.

25. BUTESHIRE—chief towns, *Rothesay*, on the island of Bute, and Kilbride, upon the isle of Arran.

26. DUMBARTONSHIRE (or Lennox)—chief towns, *Dumbarton* (on the Clyde) and Kirkintilloch.

27. ARGYLE—chief towns, *Inverary*, Campbeltown, and Oban. Inverary is near the head of Loch Fyne, and at the mouth of the little river Ary. Glencoe, the scene of the infamous massacre of the Macdonalds, in 1692, is in this county, near its northern border-line.

28. INVERNESS-SHIRE—chief towns, *Inverness* and Portree. Inverness is at the mouth of the river Ness, which issues from Loch Ness and flows into Loch Beauley, at the head of the Moray Frith. A few miles east of Inverness is Culloden Moor, the scene of Prince Charles Edward's final defeat, in 1746. Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in Britain, is in this county.

29. ROSS-SHIRE—chief towns, *Tain*, Dingwall, and Stornoway.

30. CROMARTYSHIRE—chief town, *Cromarty*.

31. SUTHERLAND—chief town, *Dornoch*.

32. CAITHNESS—chief towns, *Wick* and Thurso. Wick is a great seat of the herring-fishery.

33. ORKNEY AND SHETLAND—chief towns, *Kirkwall*, on the island of Pomona or Mainland, the largest of the Orkneys, and Lerwick, on the mainland of the Shetland group.

III.—IRELAND.

SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, &C.—IRELAND is to the west of Great Britain. Upon the north, west, and south, it is bounded by the Atlantic Ocean; upon the east, by the Irish Sea, which is connected with the Atlantic by the North Channel and St George's Channel. The area of Ireland is 32,500 square miles.

CAPES.—The principal are—

On the North.

Fair Head, or Benmore ...(Antrim.)
Malin Head.....(Donegal.)
Horn Head ..... (Do.)

On the South.

Mizen Head .....(Cork.)
Cape Clear ..... (Do.)
Carnsore Point .....(Wexford.)

On the East.

Wicklow Head .. ..(Wicklow.)
Howth Head .....(Dublin.)

On the West.

Rossan Point .....(Donegal.)
Achil Head.....(Mayo.)
Slyne Head.....(Galway.)
Loop Head .....(Clare.)
Dunmore Head .....(Kerry.)

GULFS AND BAYS.—The principal inlets on the Irish coast are—

On the East coast.

Dublin Bay.	Lough Carlingford.	Lough Strangford.
Dundalk Bay.	Dundrum Bay.	Belfast Lough.

On the North coast.

Lough Foyle. | Lough Swilly.

On the West coast.

Donegal Bay.	Galway Bay.	Kenmare Bay.
Sligo Bay.	Mouth of Shannon.	Bantry Bay.
Clew Bay.	Dingle Bay.	

On the South coast.

Cork Harbour. | Waterford Harbour.

MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS.—The interior of Ireland is generally level, the mountains lying, for the most part, in the neighbourhood of the coasts. The principal are—

Mountains of Kerry .....in the south-west...(county of Kerry.)
Mountains of Wicklow.....on the east.....(county of Wicklow.)
Mourne Mountains.....on the east.....(county of Down.)
Mountains of Donegal .....in the north-west...(county of Donegal.)
Mountains of Connemara ...on the west .....(counties of Galway and Mayo.)

The highest are the mountains of Kerry, where the summit of Carrantuohill reaches 3404 feet above the sea.

RIVERS.—Ireland abounds in inland waters, both rivers and lakes. The principal rivers are—

On the West.	*On the South.*
Shannon.	Bandon.
	Lee.
On the North.	Blackwater.
Bann.	Barrow.
Foyle.	Suir.

All the above flow into the Atlantic Ocean.

The rivers on the *East side of the island, flowing into the Irish Sea*, are—

Slaney.	Boyne.
Liffey.	Lagan.

The Liffey has Dublin on its banks. The Shannon is the finest river in the British Islands. It passes through the large lakes of Allen, Ree, and Derg, and is navigable nearly to its source.

LAKES.—The principal are—

Lough Neagh.*	Lough Ree.	Lough Corrib.
Lough Erne.	Lough Derg.	Lakes of Killarney.
Lough Allen.	Lough Mask.	

Lough Neagh is the largest lake in the British Islands. The Lakes of Killarney are noted for their beautiful scenery.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate of Ireland is moister than that of England. This preserves a more constant verdure to the fields, and a superior freshness and brightness of colour to its general vegetation. The winters are nearly always mild, and the prevalent winds, which are from the west, are laden with the warm and moist vapours derived from the waters of the Atlantic.

In respect of mineral produce, Ireland is inferior to England and Scotland in one essential particular—coal. This affects injuriously its manufacturing industry. The coal-fields of Ireland are of limited extent compared to those of Great Britain, and their produce small in amount. Peat is the fuel most generally consumed, but coal is imported from the English and Scotch seaports.

Ireland has ores of copper, lead, iron, and other mineral produce, and possesses a rich variety of marbles and building-stones.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The population of Ireland amounted, in 1851, to 6,500,000—a million and a half fewer than the number of its inhabitants ten years previously. Famine, combined with extensive emigration, had caused this diminution during the interval.

The great majority of the people of Ireland belong to the Celtic race—the same as that by which the Highlands of Scotland are peopled; but in Ulster, the north-east province of the island, the population is principally of Lowland Scotch origin. People of English descent are scattered over every portion of the island. The native language of Ireland is becoming superseded by the English tongue.

Ireland is chiefly an agricultural country, and a very large portion of the land is in pasture. Cattle and pigs, with various farm-produce, constitute (over by far the greater part of the island) its chief industrial wealth. The linen manufacture flourishes in Ulster. Woollen and cotton goods are also made,

* *Lough* in Ireland is equivalent to *loch* in Scotland, and is applied to inlets of the sea as well as to inland lakes.

but in smaller quantity. A great part of the commerce of Ireland consists in the supply of its agricultural produce to the English market.

COUNTIES AND TOWNS.—Ireland is divided into thirty-two counties, and into four provinces. The provinces are Leinster, Ulster, Connaught, and Munster—Leinster in the east, Ulster in the north, Connaught in the west, and Munster in the south.

LEINSTER contains twelve counties, which are named in the following table, with the chief towns of each. The county towns are distinguished by italics :—

DUBLIN.....*Dublin*, Kingstown.	QUEEN'S COUNTY..*Maryborough*.
WICKLOW.....*Wicklow*, Arklow.	KING'S COUNTY ...*Tullamore*, Parsonstown.
WEXFORD.....*Wexford*.	WESTMEATH .....*Mullingar*, Athlone.
KILKENNY .....*Kilkenny*.	LONGFORD .....*Longford*.
CARLOW .....*Carlow*.	MEATH.....*Trim*, Navan.
KILDARE .....*Athy*, *Naas*, Maynooth.	LOUTH.....*Dundalk*, Drogheda.

Dublin, situated at the mouth of the river Liffey, is the metropolis of Ireland, and is, besides, a great seat of trade. It is an archiepiscopal city, and possesses two cathedrals, besides a Protestant university. *Kingstown*, on the south side of Dublin Bay, has also considerable trade.

Kilkenny, on the river Nore (an affluent of the Barrow), is the largest inland town of Ireland. *Wexford*, at the outlet of the river Slaney into Wexford Haven, is a port of considerable trade. *Drogheda* and *Dundalk*, to the northward of Dublin, are flourishing commercial ports. Drogheda stands on the river Boyne, near its mouth. The battle of the Boyne, in 1690, between the armies of William III. and James II., was fought on the banks of the river, a short distance above the town. *Athlone*, on the Shannon, is a thriving inland town, partly in Leinster and partly in Connaught.

ULSTER has nine counties, which, with their towns, are named below :—

ARMAGH .....*Armagh*, Portadown.	DONEGAL .....*Lifford*, Ballyshannon.
DOWN .....*Downpatrick*, Newry, Donaghadee.	TYRONE.....*Omagh*, Strabane.
ANTRIM.....*Belfast*, Lisburn, Carrickfergus.	FERMANAGH.....*Enniskillen*.
LONDONDERRY..*Londonderry*, Coleraine.	MONAGHAN.....*Monaghan*.
	CAVAN .....*Cavan*.

Belfast is the largest city of Ulster, and the chief seat of the linen manufactures of Ireland. It has also manufactures of cotton, with potteries, glassworks, &c., and a larger amount of foreign trade than any other city in the island. *Armagh* has a great share in the linen manufacture, and is an archiepiscopal see—the ecclesiastical metropolis of Ireland. *Londonderry*, on the river Foyle, has considerable trade, and is famous in story for the gallant defence made by its Protestant inhabitants against the besieging army of James

II., in 1689. *Coleraine*, near the mouth of the Bann, is a flourishing port. The Giants' Causeway, on the north coast of Antrim, is one of the chief natural wonders of the kingdom.

CONNAUGHT includes five counties, as follow :—

LEITRIM .....*Carrick-on-Shannon.*	MAYO .....*Castlebar*, Westport.
ROSCOMMON .....*Roscommon.*	GALWAY.....*Galway*, Tuam.
SLIGO .....*Sligo.*	

Galway, on the shore of Galway Bay, at the mouth of a stream which issues from Lough Corrib, is the largest town of Connaught, and is an important packet-station. Some distance to the westward begins the romantic tract of country known as Connemara, a region of alternate hills and valleys, with enclosed lakes and mountain streams. *Aughrim*, a village in the eastern part of the county (a few miles distant from the right bank of the Suck), witnessed a decisive victory gained by the army of William III. over the troops of James II., in 1691. *Sligo*, at the head of Sligo Bay, has considerable trade.

MUNSTER includes six counties, which, with their chief towns, are as follow :—

CLARE.....*Ennis.*	WATERFORD...*Waterford*, Dungarvan.
LIMERICK .....*Limerick.*	CORK .....*Cork*, Queenstown, Youghal, Bandon, Kinsale.
TIPPERARY.....*Clonmel*, Carrick-on-Shannon, Thurles, Cashel.	KERRY .....*Tralee*, Killarney.

Cork, on the river Lee, at its entrance into Cork Harbour, is the largest city of Munster, and has a very extensive foreign trade. *Queenstown* (formerly Cove) is on an island in Cork Harbour. *Limerick*, on the Shannon, is memorable for the sieges it underwent, in 1690 and the following year, in behalf of the Roman Catholic cause. *Waterford*, on the Suir, immediately above its junction with the Barrow, has considerable export trade.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland is a hereditary monarchy, limited by constitutional forms. The executive power is in the hands of the sovereign; the legislative power is divided between the sovereign, the House of Lords, and the House of Commons—the last consisting of members elected by qualified classes of the people. The House of Commons alone has the right to regulate the taxes and expenditure of the kingdom, and the Ministers of the Crown are responsible to it for their public proceedings. The people of the British Islands thus enjoy the blessings of a free constitution. The expression of opinion is free to all classes.

The Protestant religion almost uniformly prevails in Eng-

land and Wales, and also in Scotland. The English Church is under the government of two archbishops and twenty-six bishops. There are numerous dissenters from the established form of worship.

In Scotland, the Presbyterian Church, under the General Assembly of Divines, is the established form of church government. But there is a numerous body of seceders from its ranks.

The Established Church of Ireland is a branch of the Anglican Church, under two archbishops and ten bishops. But the majority of the Irish people are Roman Catholics.

COLONIES.—Besides Great Britain and Ireland, the British empire embraces a vast number of colonies and dependencies, including amongst them territories in every quarter of the globe. These are enumerated in the following list:—

IN EUROPE.

The Channel Islands.
Island of Heligoland.
Gibraltar.
Maltese Islands.
Ionian Islands.

IN ASIA.

British India, comprising Bengal, Madras, Bombay, and the provinces east of the Bay of Bengal; with Ceylon, and also Penang, Malacca, and Singapore.
Aden (in Arabia.)
Hong-Kong (China.)
Labuan (Borneo.)

IN AFRICA.

The River Gambia, Sierra Leone, The Gold Coast, } West Africa.
The Cape of Good Hope, Natal, } South Africa.
Ascension; St Helena; Mauritius.

IN AMERICA.

Canada.
New Brunswick.
Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island.
Prince Edward Island.
Newfoundland.
British Columbia.
Vancouver Island.
Hudson Bay Territory.
West Indies (Jamaica, &c.)
British Guiana.
Bermuda Islands.
Falkland Islands.

IN AUSTRALIA.

New South Wales.
Queensland.
Victoria.
South Australia.
Western Australia.
Tasmania (or Van Diemen's Land.)

IN POLYNESIA.

New Zealand.

FRANCE.

SITUATION AND BOUNDARIES.—France lies on the western side of the European continent. It is bounded on the north

by the English Channel and Belgium; on the east by Germany, Switzerland, and part of Italy; on the south by the Mediterranean; on the west by the Bay of Biscay.

France is about four times larger than England.

COASTS.—France has three lines of sea-coast. Two of them are continuous—the Channel and the Bay of Biscay; the third belongs to the Mediterranean. The most important headland is Cape de la Hague, on the coast of the Channel.

ISLANDS.—At the entrance of the Channel, Ouessant (or Ushant); in the Bay of Biscay, Belle Isle, Ré, Oléron, and a few others; in the Mediterranean, the group called Isles d'Hiéres, near the coast, and the large island of Corsica.

MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS.—France is in general a level country; but it is mountainous on some parts of its border-line, and is hilly in portions of the interior, towards the centre and east.

The Alps divide France from Italy, and rise above the snow-line.* The chains of Mount Jura, which are much less elevated, extend along the borders of France and Switzerland. The Pyrenees form the border between France and Spain, and are covered with snow on their higher peaks, though they are not so lofty as the Alps. The Cevennes are a long chain of hills in the east of France, upon the western side of the valley of the Rhone; the Vosges are further to the northward, along the west side of the Rhine valley. The mountains of Auvergne are a group of extinct volcanoes in central France.

RIVERS.—The four principal are—

Seine	flowing into the	English Channel.
Loire	"	Bay of Biscay.
Garonne	"	Do.
Rhone	"	Mediterranean Sea.

The upper portion of the Rhone is in Switzerland. Besides the above, France has the Rhine on part of its eastern border, and includes portions of the Moselle and the Meuse, both of which afterwards join the Rhine.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—France has a warmer and drier atmosphere than England, especially in the south, towards the Mediterranean shores. The vine is extensively grown in the east, centre, and south of France; the olive,

* That is, the line at which, owing to the severity of the cold, the snow never melts. The height of the snow-line in the Alps is between 8000 and 9000 feet.

mulberry, and fig, in the south. In mineral produce France is inferior to England, from the comparative deficiency of coal. Iron and other metallic ores, however, are abundant.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY. — The population numbers 36,000,000. Agriculture, manufactures, and commerce, are all extensively pursued, and the productions of French industry are of high value. Wines and brandy are two of the characteristic articles of produce. Of textile fabrics, silk takes in France the first place in importance. The silk manufacture is chiefly pursued in the south; the woollen manufacture, and also the making of linen and lace, principally in the north; the cotton manufacture in the north and east.

Lyons, Nismes, and Avignon, are noted for their silk goods; Rouen, Amiens, and Abbeville, for their woollen fabrics; Lille and Valenciennes for their laces and muslins; Mulhausen for its cottons; Paris for its artificial flowers, gloves, jewellery, and other works of taste and ornament.

Marseilles, Bordeaux, and Havre, are the three great seats of the foreign export trade. The first named is on the Mediterranean; Bordeaux is on the estuary of the Gironde (as the outlet of the river Garonne is called), and is the chief emporium of the wine trade; Havre is at the mouth of the Seine, and forms the port of Paris.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—France is divided into eighty-six departments. Before the great revolution, at the close of the last century, it formed thirty-four provinces.

The greater number of the departments are named according to the rivers which flow through them, as Seine, Seine-et-Oise, Marne, &c. The island of Corsica, which belongs to France, forms one of the departments.

1. Twelve of the departments are included within the basin of the river Seine, which corresponds (among the older divisions of France) to the provinces of Champagne, Isle of France, and Lower Normandy.

The most considerable towns within the basin of the Seine are Paris, Rouen, Havre Troyes, and Rheims.

Paris, the capital of France, is in the department of Seine. It stands upon either bank of the river Seine, and contains a million and a half of inhabitants. *Rouen* is on the Lower Seine, and *Havre* at the mouth of the same river. *Troyes* is on the Upper Seine.

2. Seventeen of the departments are within the basin of the river Loire, which comprehends the ancient provinces of Auvergne, Berry, Orleanois, Touraine, Maine, Anjou, and parts of Poitou and Brittany.

The chief towns within the basin of the Loire are Nantes, Tours, Orleans, Poitiers, Moulins, Clermont, and St Etienne. *Nantes* is on the Loire, a few miles above its mouth. *Tours* and *Orleans* are both on the Loire. *Moulins* is

on the Allier. *St Etienne*, near the Upper Loire, is the chief seat of the iron-works of France.

3. Thirteen of the departments are within the basin of the river Garonne, which includes the ancient Guienne, with parts of Gascony and Languedoc.

The most important towns within the basin of the Garonne are *Toulouse* and *Bordeaux*. Toulouse is on the Upper Garonne; Bordeaux at the head of the estuary which the river forms above its outlet.

4. Fifteen of the departments are within the basin of the Rhone, which comprehends the ancient Burgundy, Franche-Comté, Lyonnais, Dauphiny, and the chief parts of Provence and Languedoc.

The principal towns within the basin of the Rhone are *Dijon*, *Besançon*, *Avignon*, and *Nismes*. Lyons, at the junction of the Saone with the Rhone, is the second city in France in population, and the great seat of the silk manufacture. Avignon is on the Rhone, lower down its course.

5. Seven of the departments are within the basin of the Rhine, which includes the ancient provinces of Alsace and Lorraine.

The principal towns within this part of France are Strasbourg, Mulhausen, Nancy, and Metz. *Strasbourg*, a large city, famous for its Gothic cathedral, is near the left bank of the Rhine, on the little river Ill. *Metz* is on the river Moselle; *Nancy* on a small tributary of that river.

6. Three of the departments lie to the north of the Seine valley, and include the ancient Picardy, Artois, and French Flanders. The most important towns in this portion of France are Amiens, Abbeville, Dieppe, Boulogne, Calais, Lille, Valenciennes, and Arras. Both *Amiens* and *Abbeville* are on the river Somme, which flows into the English Channel. Cressy and Agincourt, names well known in history, are in this part of France, the former near the Somme, and Agincourt further to the north. *Calais*, on the strait which divides the French and English coasts, is only 21 miles distant from Dover.

7. Seven of the departments are between the basins of the lower Seine and Loire. They lie along the shores of the channel and the neighbouring ocean, and include the chief part of the ancient provinces of Brittany and Normandy. The principal towns in this division of France are Rennes, Caen, Cherbourg, St Malo, and Brest. *Cherbourg* and *Brest* are important naval stations.

8. Four of the departments occupy the tract of country between the lower Loire and the mouth of the Garonne, corresponding to the ancient Saintonge and Angoumois, with the chief part of Poitou. The principal towns in this part of France are *La Rochelle*, *Rochefort*, and *Cognac*. The two former are seaports: Cognac, in the valley of the river Charente, is famous for its brandies.

9. Three departments are south-west of the Garonne basin. They include the ancient Bearn and Navarre, with part of Gascony. The chief towns are *Bayonne* and *Pau*. Bayonne is at the mouth of the river Adour, which enters the Bay of Biscay.

10. Three departments lie south-east of the Garonne basin, along the coast of the Mediterranean, and for the most part within the ancient Languedoc. The chief towns are *Montpellier*, *Cette*, and *Narbonne*.

11. Upon the coast of the Mediterranean, to the east of the Rhone, and within the ancient Provence, are *Marseilles* and *Toulon*, the former a flourishing commercial city; the latter an important naval station.

12. The Island of Corsica includes the towns of *Bastia* and *Ajaccio*, the latter distinguished as the birthplace of Napoleon I.

GOVERNMENT, &c.—France constitutes an empire, under a government which is virtually absolute. The great majority of the French people are followers of the Roman Catholic religion.

France possesses the following colonies and foreign dependencies:—

In Africa.	In America.
Algeria.	Islands of Martinique and Guadaloupe, in the West Indies.
St Louis, at the mouth of the river Senegal.	French Guiana, or Cayenne.
Goree, near Cape Verde.	Islands of St Pierre and Miquelon, (Gulf of St Lawrence.)
Island of Réunion, or Bourbon, in the Indian Ocean.	
In Asia.	**In Polynesia.**
Pondicherry, in India.	New Caledonia.

The Channel Islands, off the N.W. coast of France, belong to Great Britain, and have been attached to the English crown ever since the Norman conquest. They consist of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, Sark, and a few smaller islets. The chief town of Jersey, the largest of the number, is *St Helier.*

BELGIUM.

Situation and Bounderies.—Belgium is a small country, adjacent to France. It is bounded, on the north, by Holland; on the east, by Prussia; on the south, by France; on the west, by the German Ocean.

In size, Belgium is about one-fifth the area of England and Wales.

Surface.—Belgium is chiefly level, excepting towards the east, where it includes the hilly and wooded regions of the Ardennes.

Rivers.—The chief are, the Meuse and the Scheldt, both of which have their origin in France, and pass through Belgium into Holland.

Climate and Productions.—The climate is temperate. The most valuable of the natural productions are coal and iron, which Belgium contains in rich abundance.

Population and Industry.—Belgium has above 4,600,000 inhabitants, and is, for its size, a very populous country. The language of the lower orders of the Belgian population is Flemish, but the upper classes of society speak the French tongue.

The Belgians are highly distinguished by their industry. The woollen, linen, lace, cotton, and silk manufactures are largely carried on, and the iron-works are very extensive. The fine laces of Brussels, Mechlin, and Antwerp, are particularly celebrated.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—Belgium is divided into nine provinces, which, with their chief towns, are as follow:—

Provinces.	*Towns.*	*Provinces.*	*Towns.*
WEST FLANDERS	Bruges, Ostend.	LIMBURG	St Tron.
EAST FLANDERS	Ghent, St Nicholas.	LIE'GE	Liége, Verviers.
HAINAULT	Tournay, Mons.	NAMUR	Namur.
SOUTH BRABANT	Brussels, Louvain.	LUXEMBURG	Arlon.
ANTWERP	Antwerp, Mechlin.		

Brussels is the capital of Belgium. It stands on the river Senne, in the centre of the kingdom. Ten miles to the south is the battlefield of Waterloo. *Antwerp*, on the river Scheldt, is the chief port of Belgium. *Ostend*, on the North Sea, is a port of secondary importance. *Liége*, in the eastern part of the kingdom, on the river Meuse, is the chief seat of the iron-works of Belgium.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—Belgium is a kingdom, under constitutional forms. The people are followers of the Roman Catholic religion.

HOLLAND, OR THE NETHERLANDS.

BOUNDARIES, &C.—Holland is bounded on the north and west by the North Sea, on the east by Germany, and on the south by Belgium. In size, it is less than one-fourth the area of England and Wales.

COASTS.—Holland includes the Zuyder Zee and the Dollart, both of them arms of the North Sea. The coasts are low and flat, and consist, in many parts, of islands formed by the mouths of the great rivers.

SURFACE.—Holland is flat, and naturally marshy. In some places the land is even below the level of the adjacent sea, which is only prevented from overflowing it by means of *dykes*, or mounds of artificial construction. Many tracts, now fertile, have been by like means reclaimed from the sea.

RIVERS.—The three principal are the Rhine, Meuse, and Scheldt, all of these flowing into the North Sea. The Rhine and the Meuse form a united *delta*, and their various channels render the country, in that part, a complete network of water-courses. Besides these rivers and their branches, Holland is also traversed by a vast number of canals.

CLIMATE.—The climate is temperate, but rather colder, and also moister, than that of England.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY. — The population exceeds 3,500,000. The people of Holland are called the Dutch, and are distinguished for their industry, frugality, and cleanliness. Farm and dairy produce (cattle, butter, cheese, &c.), and foreign commerce, are the things which chiefly engage the attention of the Dutch nation. They have a large carrying-trade in the productions of other lands. The fisheries are also of value.

PROVINCES AND TOWNS.—Holland includes ten provinces, besides portions of Limburg and Luxemburg. The last is properly a part of Germany, but is attached to the Dutch crown. Their names, with the chief towns in each, are—

Provinces.	*Towns.*	*Provinces.*	*Towns.*
NORTH HOLLAND	Amsterdam, Haarlem, Horn, Alkmaar.	UTRECHT	Utrecht.
SOUTH HOLLAND	Rotterdam, The Hague, Leyden.	GUELDERLAND	Nimeguen, Zutphen.
ZEALAND	Middleburg, Flushing.	OVERYSSEL	Zwoll.
NORTH BRABANT	Hertogensbosch, Breda.	DRENTHE	Meppel.
		FRIESLAND	Leeuwarden.
		GRONINGEN	Groningen.
		LIMBURG	Maestricht.
		LUXEMBURG	Luxemburg.

Amsterdam is the largest city of the Netherlands, and the great seat of its foreign trade. It stands at the entrance of the river Amstel into an estuary of the Zuyder Zee. But *The Hague* is the seat of government, and forms the political capital of the kingdom. *Rotterdam* is on the river Meuse. *Leyden*, on a branch of the Rhine, to the south-west of Amsterdam, is famous for its university.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—Holland is a kingdom, under constitutional forms. The Dutch are followers of the Protestant Church.

The foreign possessions of Holland are—

IN THE EAST INDIES.	IN AMERICA.
Java, with parts of Sumatra, Borneo, Celebes, and the Moluccas.	Dutch Guiana, or Surinam.
IN AFRICA.	Saba, St Eustatius, Curaçao, and part of St Martin, in the West Indies.
El-Mina, and other forts on the Gold Coast.	

SWITZERLAND.

BOUNDARIES, &C.—Switzerland is an inland country. It is bounded on the north and east, by Germany; on the south,

by Italy; on the west, by France. Its size is little more than one-fourth that of England and Wales.

MOUNTAINS.—Two-thirds of the surface of Switzerland consist of high mountains and intervening valleys: the remaining third is an elevated plain. It is, therefore, a mountainous country.

The Alps cover the greater part of Switzerland, and form a stupendous chain along the Swiss and Italian border. Mont Blanc, the highest summit of the Alps, is not in Switzerland, but within the adjacent province of Savoy. The highest of the Swiss Alps are Monte Rosa, Mont Cervin (or the Matterhorn), Finster-aar-horn, and the Jungfrau. All the higher portions of these and other lofty summits are covered with perpetual snow.

RIVERS.—The four principal are the Rhine, the Rhone, the Aar, and the Inn. The Rhine flows through the Lake of Constance; the Rhone through the Lake of Geneva. The Aar is a tributary of the Rhine. The Inn is a tributary of the Danube.

LAKES.—The largest are Geneva and Constance; next come Neufchatel, Lucerne, and Zurich.

CLIMATE.—The air of the higher open country is cool, but on the shores of the lakes, and in other sheltered localities, the climate is warm, more so than that of England. The vine flourishes in all the lower plains and valleys.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—Switzerland has 2,400,000 inhabitants. The Swiss are partly of French and partly of German descent, and speak respectively the languages of France and Germany. Manufactures are extensively pursued, chiefly silk and cotton goods, watches, and musical boxes. In the mountain-tracts, the rearing of cattle, and the produce of the dairy, are the chief features of Swiss industry.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—Switzerland is divided into twenty-two cantons, which, with their principal towns, are as follow:—

Cantons.	*Towns.*
BERNE	Berne.
SOLEURE	Soleure.
BASLE	Basle.
AARGAU	Aargau.
ZURICH	Zurich.
SCHAFFHAUSEN	Schaffhausen.
THURGAU	Frauenfeld.
APPENZELL	Appenzell.
ST GALL	St Gall.
GLARUS	Glarus.
SCHWYZ	Schwyz.
ZUG	Zug.
LUCERNE	Lucerne.
UNTERWALDEN	Stanz, Sarnen.
URI	Altorf.
FRIBOURG	Fribourg.
NEUFCHATEL	Neufchatel.
VAUD	Lausanne.
GENEVA	Geneva.
VALAIS	Sion.
GRISONS	Chur, or Coire.
TESSIN	Bellinzona, Lugano.

Berne is the capital of Switzerland. It stands on the river Aar. Geneva, Zurich, and Basle, are next in importance. *Geneva* is on the Rhone, at its outlet from the Lake of Geneva. *Zurich* is at the foot of the Lake of Zurich, at the outlet of the river Limmat, which joins the Aar. *Basle* is on the Rhine.

GOVERNMENT, &c.—Switzerland is a federal republic. Each canton has a government of its own, and the whole are joined in a federal union, governed by a Diet. Rather more than half the Swiss people are Protestants.

GERMANY.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—Germany, a large country of middle Europe, is bounded on the north by Denmark and the Baltic Sea; on the east, by Poland and Hungary; on the south, by the Adriatic Sea, Italy, and Switzerland; on the west, by France, Belgium, Holland, and the North Sea.

Germany is more than twice as large as Great Britain and Ireland united.

Germany is divided politically into thirty-five distinct states, which are united into a body called the Germanic Confederation, but each of which has a government of its own. The first of these states in size and importance is the empire of Austria; the second is the kingdom of Prussia. Austria and Prussia embrace between them more than half of Germany. After them come Bavaria, Hanover, Saxony, Baden, and various smaller states.

I.—AUSTRIA.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—The empire of Austria embraces, besides its German provinces, several other extensive countries, as Hungary, Galicia, and part of Italy. Its boundaries are—on the north, Saxony, Prussia, and Poland; on the east, Russia and Turkey; on the south, Turkey, the Adriatic Sea, and the Papal territory; on the west, Sardinia, Switzerland, and Bavaria.

In size, Austria is about five times larger than England.

MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS.—Austria includes part of the Alps, and the whole of the Carpathian Mountains. The Alps stretch over the German provinces of the empire; the Carpathian Mountains extend round the north and east of

Hungary. The chief part of Hungary is an extensive plain, watered by the Danube and its tributaries.

RIVERS AND LAKES.—The chief rivers are—

The Danube, with its tributaries, the Inn, Drave, Save, and Theiss.
The Elbe and the Dniester, only the upper portions of which belong to Austria.
The two chief lakes are—Neusiedler See and Platten See (or Lake of Balaton), both in Hungary.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate is generally dry, temperate, and healthy. Hungary, and the eastern provinces in general, are distinguished by extremes of heat and cold at opposite seasons. The vine thrives in Hungary, and to the south of the Alps. The mineral produce is of high value: it includes gold, silver, iron, lead, and quicksilver.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The Austrian empire has above 34,000,000 inhabitants—fewer than one-fourth of them Germans, the other three-fourths composed of Sclavonic and other races.

The industry of Austria is chiefly agricultural. Foreign commerce is restricted by the limited extent of sea-coast, which is confined to the Adriatic. Trieste, at the head of that sea, is the chief seat of maritime trade for the German provinces of the empire; Fiume for the Hungarian countries, and Venice for the Italian province.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—Austria includes the following:—

German Provinces.		*Hungarian Provinces.*	
AUSTRIA PROPER	Vienna, Linz.	HUNGARY	Pesth, Buda, Presburg.
SALZBURG	Salzburg.	THE BANAT	Temeswar.
STYRIA	Gratz.	TRANSYLVANIA	Kronstadt, Klausenburg.
CARINTHIA	Klagenfurt.	SCLAVONIA	Peterwardein.
CARNIOLA	Laybach.	CROATIA	Agram, Fiume.
THE LITTORAL, or COAST-REGION	Trieste.	DALMATIA	Zara, Ragusa.
TYROL	Innsbruck.		
BOHEMIA	Prague.		
MORAVIA	Brunn, Olmutz.		
SILESIA	Troppau.		
Polish Province.		*Italian Province.*	
GALICIA	Lemberg, Cracow.	VENETIA	Venice, Verona, Mantua

Vienna, the capital of the Austrian empire, is a populous and commercial city on the south bank of the Danube. *Prague*, the chief city of Bohemia, ranks next to Vienna in size and population. *Pesth* and *Buda*, upon the opposite banks of the Danube, form together the largest city of Hungary: *Presburg*, also on the Danube, was the former capital of that country. *Cracow*, on the Vistula, was the ecclesiastical capital of Poland, while that unfortunate country maintained its place as an independent nation.

GOVERNMENT, &c.—The empire of Austria is a despotic monarchy, maintained by military force. Three-fourths of the people are followers of the Roman Catholic religion.

II.—PRUSSIA.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—Prussia is bounded on the north by the Baltic Sea and the kingdom of Hanover; on the east, by Poland; on the south, by Austria, the smaller German States, and France; on the west, by Holland and Belgium. Its size is rather more than twice that of England.

SURFACE.—Prussia is chiefly a level country. But the Rhine province is hilly, as also are some other portions of the country, chiefly towards its southern limits. The Harz Mountains are on the border of Hanover and Prussia.

RIVERS.—The five following rivers belong partly to Prussia:—

Rhine	flowing into the	North Sea.
Elbe	"	Do.
Oder	"	Baltic Sea.
Vistula	"	Do.
Niemen	"	Do.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate of Prussia is temperate, but rather colder than that of England. There are extensive forests. Coal, iron, and other mineral productions, are abundant in the western division of the kingdom. Amber is one of the productions of Prussia: it is found on the shores of the Baltic.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—Prussia has nearly 18,000,000 inhabitants. More than three-fourths of them are Germans. Agriculture is the chief branch of industry, but there are flourishing manufactures of linen, cotton, and woollen, together with works in metal.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—Prussia includes eight provinces, all but the two last-named of which are in Germany:—

Provinces.	*Towns.*
BRANDENBURG	Berlin, Potsdam, Frankfort-on-the-Oder.
POMERANIA	Stettin, Stralsund.
SILESIA	Breslau.
SAXONY	Magdeburg, Halle.
WESTPHALIA	Munster, Minden.
RHINE PROVINCE	Cologne, Aachen, Elberfeld, Crefeld, Treves, Coblenz.
POSEN	Posen.
PRUSSIA PROPER	Königsberg, Danzig, Memel.

Berlin, the capital of Prussia, is on the river Spree, which joins the Havel, an affluent of the Elbe. *Breslau*, the second city in the kingdom in point of size, is on the Oder. *Stettin* is near the mouth of the same river. *Dantzic*, on the river Vistula, near its mouth, is the chief seat of the foreign commerce of Prussia. *Magdeburg* is on the river Elbe. *Cologne*, on the river Rhine, is noted for its magnificent cathedral. The Rhine province of Prussia is the most manufacturing portion of the kingdom.

GOVERNMENT, &c.—Prussia is a kingdom, with nearly absolute power on the part of the sovereign. The majority of the people are Protestants, but there are numerous followers of the Romish Church.

III.—THE SMALLER STATES OF GERMANY.

The smaller German States comprehend four Kingdoms, seven Grand-Duchies, ten Duchies, one Electorate, one Landgraviate, six Principalities, and four Free Cities—thirty-three in all. These, added to Austria and Prussia, make up the whole number of thirty-five German States.

NATURAL FEATURES.—The middle and south of Germany are hilly: the north is principally level. Among the mountainous districts of Germany are the Schwarz-wald (or Black Forest), in Baden; the Harz Mountains, on the border of Hanover and Prussia; and the Erz Mountains, in Saxony.

RIVERS.—The chief rivers of Germany are the Rhine, Danube, Elbe, Weser, Ems, and Oder. The last of these belongs almost wholly to Prussia.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate of Germany is temperate and healthy, but becomes cold in the north, towards the Baltic coasts. The mineral produce is of high value, embracing iron, lead, copper, zinc, and many other valuable ores and earthy substances.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The united population of the smaller German States exceeds 17,000,000. Agriculture is, in most of the States, the leading occupation of the people, but there are extensive manufactures in some parts of Germany. Saxony is distinguished for its woollen goods and fine porcelain; Bavaria for its beer, and its wooden-wares (toys, &c.).

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—These are as follow:—

Four Kingdoms.

Kingdoms.	*Towns.*
BAVARIA	Munich, Nuremberg, Augsburg, Ratisbon, Bamberg.
WURTEMBERG	Stuttgart, Ulm.
SAXONY	Dresden, Leipzig, Meissen.
HANOVER	Hanover, Gottingen, Embden.

Seven Grand-Duchies.

States.	*Towns.*	*States.*	*Towns.*
BADEN	Carlsruhe. Mannheim. Heidelberg.	HESSEN-DARMSTADT	Darmstadt. Mentz.
MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN	Schwerin.	OLDENBURG	Oldenburg.
MECKLENBURG-STRELITZ	Neu-Strelitz.	LUXEMBURG	Luxemburg.
		SAXE-WEIMAR	Weimar, Jena.

Ten Duchies.

States.	*Chief Towns.*	*States.*	*Chief Towns.*
HOLSTEIN	Altona.	SAXE-ALTENBURG	Altenburg.
NASSAU	Wiesbaden.	LIPPE-DETMOLD	Detmold
BRUNSWICK	Brunswick.	LIPPE-SCHAUMBERG	Buckeburg.
SAXE-MEININGEN	Meiningen.	ANHALT-DESSAU-KOETHEN	Dessau.
SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA	Coburg, Gotha.	ANHALT-BERNBURG	Bernburg.

One Electorate.

State.	*Chief Town.*
HESSEN-CASSEL	Cassel.

One Landgraviate.

HESSEN-HOMBURG.....Homburg.

Six Principalities.

States.	*Towns.*	*States.*	*Towns.*
WALDECK	Arolsen.	SCHWARZBURG-SONDERSHAUSEN	Sondershausen.
REUSS-GREITZ	Greitz.	LICHTENSTEIN	Lichtenstein.
REUSS-SCHLEITZ	Schleitz.		
SCHWARZBURG-RUDOLSTADT	Rudolstadt.		

Four Free Cities.

HAMBURG.....on the river Elbe.	LUBECK.....on the river Trave.
BREMEN.....on the river Weser.	FRANKFORT....on the river Main.

Munich, the capital of Bavaria, is a fine city on the banks of the river Isar, a tributary of the Danube. *Stuttgart*, the chief city of Wurtemberg, is near the Neckar, an affluent of the Rhine. *Dresden*, the capital of Saxony, on the river Elbe, is famous for its galleries of painting and sculpture. *Leipsic*, on the Elster (a tributary of the Elbe), is one of the chief commercial cities of northern Germany, famous for its book-trade. *Embden*, the chief port of Hanover, is at the mouth of the river Ems, which flows into the North Sea.

GOVERNMENT, &c.—The Germanic Confederation is under the regulation of a body called the *Diet*, which assembles at the city of Frankfort-on-the-Main. The Diet is composed of representatives from the several states. Austria occupies the first place in the Diet; Prussia the second. Then come Bavaria, and the smaller states in succession.

The people of northren Germany are chiefly Protestants; in the south, the Roman Catholic religion prevails.

DENMARK.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—On the north, the channel called the Skager-rack; on the east, the Kattegat and the Baltic Sea; on the south, Germany; on the west, the North Sea.

Denmark Proper consists of the peninsula of Jutland, and the neighbouring group of islands lying at the entrance of the Baltic. The largest of these islands is Zealand. Holstein, the southern province of the Danish monarchy, is within the limits of Germany. The size of Denmark (including Holstein) is much less than half that of England.

NATURAL FEATURES.—Denmark is a flat country, often marshy towards the coasts, which in some places require to be protected by dykes, as in Holland.

RIVERS.—The two principal are the Eyder and the Trave, both of small size. The Eyder flows into the North Sea, the Trave into the Baltic. The river Elbe forms part of the south boundary of Holstein.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate of Denmark is somewhat colder than that of Britain, and is also moister. The chief sources of national wealth are found in the rich pastures, and in the fisheries carried on in the adjacent seas.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—Denmark has rather fewer than two and a half millions of inhabitants. The Danes, properly so called, are of Scandinavian origin; but the people of Holstein are of German race. The industry of Denmark is chiefly agricultural; cattle, with butter and cheese, and other farm-produce, are the most valuable productions. The Danes are good sailors, and carry on considerable maritime commerce.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—The kingdom of Denmark includes the following:—

Divisions.	*Towns.*	*Divisions.*	*Towns.*
THE ISLANDS	Copenhagen, Elsinore.	SLESWIG	Sleswig, Fiensborg.
JUTLAND	Aalborg, Aarhuus.	HOLSTEIN	Altona, Kiel.

Copenhagen, the capital and chief commercial city of Denmark, is on the east coast of the island of Zealand, beside the strait of the Sound. *Altona*, the second city in the kingdom in point of size, is on the Elbe, adjoining Hamburg.

The group of the FAROE ISLANDS, and the large island of ICELAND, belong to Denmark.

The Farõe Islands are situated in the North Atlantic, 200 miles to the northwestward of the Shetland Islands. Their inhabitants are chiefly engaged in fishing and fowling, (that is, collecting the feathers and down of the numerous birds which frequent their steep and rugged cliffs).

ICELAND is, next to Great Britain, the largest of European Islands. Its northern coasts just touch the border of the frigid zone. The climate is cold, and the surface generally barren—exhibiting a succession of volcanic mountains, and plains covered with lava. Several of the volcanoes are in occasional eruption—amongst them Mount Hekla, upwards of 5000 feet high.

The most remarkable feature of Iceland, however, consists in its boiling springs, or *geysers*, situated near Mount Hekla. The geysers are fountains which at intervals throw up columns of hot water and spray. The largest of them—called the Great Geyser—throws up a column of water to the height of 80 feet.

Iceland has about 60,000 inhabitants. The only town is *Reikiavik*, on the south-west coast.

GOVERNMENT, &c.—Denmark forms a kingdom. In point of religion, the people are Protestants.

The foreign settlements belonging to Denmark, besides Iceland, are the three small islands of Santa Cruz, St Thomas, and St John, in the West Indies; and a few stations on the west coast of Greenland, in North America.

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—Sweden and Norway form together one kingdom. Its boundaries are, on the north, the Arctic Ocean; on the west, the Atlantic; on the south, the Skager-rack, the Kattegat, and the Baltic Sea; on the east, the Baltic, the Gulf of Bothnia, and part of Russia.

Sweden and Norway are together considerably more than double the whole area of the British Islands. Sweden alone is three times the size of England and Wales, and Norway more than twice their size.

COASTS.—Sweden and Norway have a very extensive coast-line, indented on the side of Norway by numerous narrow inlets, which are called *fiords*.

CAPES.—The North Cape and the Naze, both belonging to Norway. The North Cape is the northernmost point of Europe.

ISLANDS.—The Lofoden Islands, off the west coast of Norway; the islands of Gothland and Oland, in the Baltic Sea, to the east of Sweden. The Lofoden Islands are the seat of a valuable fishery.

MOUNTAINS.—The whole of Norway is a vast mountain region, which rises steeply above the waters of the Atlantic, and declines with a gradual slope to the eastward. The highest portions bear the name of Dovre-field, and reach 8000 feet above the sea.

RIVERS AND LAKES.—The two principal rivers of Sweden are—

The Dal.....flowing into the Gulf of Bothnia.
The Göta ..... ,, Kattegat.

The chief river of Norway is—

The Glommen, which flows into the Christiania Fiord, at the head of the Kattegat.
The largest lakes in Sweden are Wener, Wetter, and Mælar.
The largest lake in Norway is Miösen.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate is colder than that of England, owing to the higher latitude. The winters are long, but the cold is less severe than is elsewhere the case under similar parallels. The air of both countries is dry and healthy. Their vast forests, and valuable ores of copper and iron, with other metals, form the natural sources of wealth in Sweden and Norway. The fisheries are also of high value.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—Sweden has 3,500,000 inhabitants; Norway, 1,500,000. Both countries are thinly populated, comparatively to their size.

With both Swedes and Norwegians, the pursuits of industry are found chiefly in connexion with their mines, their forests, and their fisheries, the produce of which is extensively exported. The Laplanders, who dwell in the extreme north of the peninsula, have their wealth in their herds of rein-deer, which furnish them alike with food and clothing.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—Sweden and Norway include the following:—

SWEDEN.		NORWAY.	
Divisions.	*Towns.*	*Divisions.*	*Towns.*
SWEDEN PROPER	Stockholm, Upsal.	SONDENFIELDS	Christiania.
GOTHLAND	Gottenborg, Carlscrona.	NORDENFIELDS	Bergen, Dronthiem.
NORDLAND	Sundsval.	NORDLANDENS	Hammerfest.

Stockholm, the capital of the Swedish monarchy, lies at the entrance of the Mælar lake, near the coast of the Baltic. *Gottenborg*, at the mouth of the river Göta, is the second city of the kingdom in commercial importance.
Christiania, at the head of a long fiord called by its name, is the capital of Norway. *Hammerfest*, only a short way from the North Cape, is the most northerly town in Europe.
The northernmost portions of Sweden and Norway, with the adjoining portion of Russia, are known as Lapland.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—Sweden and Norway form together a kingdom, under constitutional forms. The people of both countries are Protestants.

The only foreign possession of Sweden is the little island of St Bartholomew, in the West Indies.

RUSSIA.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—European Russia is bounded on the north by the Arctic Ocean; on the west, by the Baltic Sea, Prussia, and Austria; on the south, by Turkey, the Black and Caspian Seas, and Mount Caucasus; on the east, by Siberia, or Asiatic Russia.

European Russia is about forty times larger than England, and it includes considerably above half of Europe.

NATURAL FEATURES.—Russia is chiefly a level country. It consists principally of vast plains, which slope respectively towards the Baltic, Black, Caspian, and White Seas. The most perfectly level of these plains are in the south-east, where they are called *steppes*. The steppe is an open plain, without trees, and generally without any perennial streams. Its surface, during the dry season of the year (the period of summer and autumn), is parched, arid, and often sandy, the vegetation burnt up by the intense heat; but at other times it exhibits a luxuriant expanse of grass, upon which the inhabitants pasture immense herds of horses and cattle.

The only mountains belonging to European Russia are the Ural and the Caucasus. The Ural are on the eastern, Mount Caucasus on part of the southern, border-line. The Caucasus is covered in its higher portions with perpetual snow.

RIVERS.—The principal are—

Neva, Dvina, Niemen	into the Baltic Sea.	Don	into the Sea of Azov.
Dniester, Dnieper, Kouban	into the Black Sea.	Volga, Ural	into the Caspian Sea.
		Northern Dvina, Onega	into the White Sea.
		Petchora	into the Arctic Ocean.

The Volga is the longest of European rivers. The Neva has the capital of the Russian empire, St Petersburg, at its mouth, and is the outlet for the great lakes. The arm of the Baltic into which it discharges is called the Gulf of Finland.

LAKES.—The two largest are Ladoga and Onega; next are Saima, Peipous, Enara, Bieloe, and Ilmen. Lake Ladoga is the largest lake in Europe.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—Russia has great variety of climate, owing to its vast extent. Its northerly portions are

very cold, compared with Britain, but towards the south it becomes warmer. Throughout Russia, however, the winters are excessively severe, and the summers are intensely hot.

The extensive forests of Russia furnish some of its most valuable productions—timber, tar, pitch, turpentine, and potash. Its mines of iron and platinum, within the Ural district, are also of high value.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY. — European Russia has 64,000,000 inhabitants, which is a small number compared to its vast size. It is, on the whole, a thinly-peopled country. Agriculture is the chief industrial pursuit. Immense crops of the finest wheat are annually raised and exported. Rye is the grain chiefly consumed by the Russian population. Hemp, tallow, hides, and bristles, with timber and other forest produce, are likewise articles of export.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—Including Finland and Poland, European Russia embraces fifty-two provinces or governments. These are comprised under the heads of the Baltic Provinces, Great Russia, Little Russia, West Russia, South Russia, and East Russia :—

Divisions.	*Towns.*
BALTIC PROVINCES	St Petersburg, Cronstadt, Riga, Revel, Helsingfors.
GREAT RUSSIA	Moscow, Toula, Nijni-Novgorod, Smolensk, Archangel.
LITTLE RUSSIA	Kiev, Poltava.
WEST RUSSIA (including Poland).	Warsaw, Wilna.
SOUTH RUSSIA	Odessa, Nikolaev, Sevastopol, Kertch.
EAST RUSSIA	Kazan, Saratov, Astrakhan, Perm.

St Petersburg, the capital of the Russian empire, stands at the mouth of the river Neva, which enters the Gulf of Finland. *Cronstadt*, situated on an island a few miles to the west, is the chief naval arsenal of the Russian empire. *Riga* is a great commercial city on the southern Dvina, a few miles above its mouth. *Archangel* is at the mouth of the northern Dvina.

Moscow, situated on the river Moskva (a tributary of the Volga), in the heart of the country, was the ancient capital of Russia. *Kiev*, on the Dnieper, is another city of ancient fame in Russian history. *Nijni-Novgorod*, at the junction of the Oka with the Volga, is an important centre of inland commerce.

Warsaw, the former capital of the Polish monarchy, is on the river Vistula.

Odessa, on the coast of the Black Sea, is a great seat of Russian commerce. *Sevastopol*, famous for its prolonged siege by the united armies of France and England, in 1854-5, is on the south-west coast of the Crimea. *Astrakhan*, at the mouth of the Volga, commands the commerce of the Caspian Sea.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—Russia is an empire, under despotic government. The population are, for the most part, members of the Greek Church.

TURKEY.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—European Turkey is bounded, on the north, by the Austrian empire; on the west, by the Adriatic and Mediterranean Seas; on the south, by Greece, the Archipelago, and the Sea of Marmora; on the east, by the Black Sea and the empire of Russia.

Turkey in Europe is about four times the size of England, and a little larger than France.

COASTS AND ISLANDS.—The Dardanelles and the Channel of Constantinople, which form (with the intervening Sea of Marmora) the entrance to the Black Sea, both belong to Turkey. Most of the islands in the Archipelago belong to the kingdom of Greece; but Candia (the ancient *Crete*) belongs to Turkey.

MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS.—The chief mountains of Turkey are the Balkan, and the range of Mount Pindus. The eastern-most portion of the Alpine system, known by the name of the Dinaric Alps, is partly within Turkey, stretching along the coasts of the Adriatic.

The extensive plains of Bulgaria and Wallachia are in the north of Turkey, within the valley of the Danube.

RIVERS AND LAKES.—The chief river of European Turkey is the Danube, which is joined, on the borders of Turkey and Austria, by the Save, and, further down its course, by the Morava, Aluta, Sereth, and Pruth. The Maritza, Kara-su, Struma, Vardar, and Selembria, all flow into the Archipelago.

The lakes are Skutari, Ochrida, and Ianina.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—Turkey has, in general, a warm and delightful climate—much warmer than that of England, especially in the provinces to the south of the Balkan mountains.

The productions of the vegetable kingdom are rich and varied. The vine grows luxuriantly to the south of the Balkan, and the fig, orange, and mulberry are abundant. The orange also thrives there.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY. — European Turkey has 15,500,000 inhabitants. The Turks, who are the ruling people, form only a small fraction of the population, the great majority of whom belong to the Sclavonic and Greek races. Industrial pursuits are at a low ebb in Turkey, for the country is badly governed. The culture of the soil is the

most important occupation. Fruits, olive-oil, wax, honey, wool, and morocco-leather, constitute the exportable produce.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—Turkey includes the following :—

Provinces.	*Towns.*
ROUMELIA	Constantinople, Adrianople, Saloniki, Gallipoli.
THESSALY	Larissa.
ALBANIA	Skutara, Janina.
HERZGOVINA	Mostar.
CROATIA	Banialouka.
BOSNIA	Bosna-serai.
SERVIA	Belgrade.
BULGARIA	Sophia, Shoumla, Silistria, Varna.
WALLACHIA	Bukharest.
MOLDAVIA	Jassy.

Constantinople, the capital of the Turkish empire, is finely situated at the entrance of the channel called by its name, and hence commands the passage to and from the Black Sea. *Adrianople*, the second city in rank, is on the river Maritza. *Gallipoli* is on the Dardanelles; *Saloniki* at the north-west corner of the Archipelago.

SERVIA, WALLACHIA, and MOLDAVIA, though nominally part of Turkey, are, in reality, nearly independent principalities, governed by native rulers. *Belgrade*, the Turkish capital of Servia, is situated at the junction of the Save with the Danube.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—Turkey is a despotic monarchy, the sovereign of which is entitled the Sultan. In religion the Turks are Mohammedans; but the great majority of the people of Turkey are members of the Greek Church.

MONTE-NEGRO, a small territory near the Adriatic, and on the border of Turkey and Austria, is claimed by Turkey, but is really an independent principality. Its chief town is *Zettinie*.

GREECE.

BOUNDARIES, &C.—The kingdom of Greece is bounded on the north by Turkey, on the west and south by the Mediterranean, on the east by the Archipelago. It is little more than double the size of Wales, and less than one-third the size of England.

COASTS.—Greece has a very irregular outline, and includes a great number of gulfs and narrow channels. Its southern portion forms a peninsula, called the Morea, which is united to the rest of the mainland by the Isthmus of Corinth. The Gulf of Corinth washes the north side of the Morea.

CAPES.—The two most important are—

Cape Matapan.....the southernmost point of the Morea.
Cape Colonna.....the south point of Attica.

ISLANDS.—A great part of Greece consists of islands. The largest of these is Negropont, or Eubœa. Among those of smaller size are Kuluri (ancient Salamis), Egina, Hydra, Spezzia, Syra, Paro, Santorin, and many others.

MOUNTAINS.—Every part of Greece is mountainous, and its highest elevations reach more than 8000 feet above the sea. The interior of the Morea (the ancient Peloponnesus) forms a high plain, or table-land, bordered by mountain-ranges. Œta, Parnassus, Helicon, and Cithæron, are among the most famous mountains of ancient Greece, and are still commonly referred to by those names.

There are no rivers of any size within the modern kingdom of Greece. The streams are merely mountain-torrents, the beds of which are often dry.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate is warm and delightful, and vegetation is abundant in the valleys and lower grounds. The vine, olive, orange, lemon, citron, fig, and mulberry, are among the native fruits. The honey of Attica is still celebrated, as it was in ancient times.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—Greece has little more than 1,000,000 inhabitants; but the Greek race is found in every part of the Levant (or eastern Mediterranean). The industry of the greater part of Greece is pastoral. Currants and other fruits, with olive-oil, honey, tobacco, and corn, are exported.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—Greece contains the following:—

Divisions.	*Towns.*
NORTHERN GREECE	Athens, Livadia, Thebes, Lepanto.
THE MOREA	Nauplia, Corinth, Patras.
THE ISLANDS	Syra, Egripo (or Negropont.)

Athens is the capital of modern Greece. It is on the west side of the peninsula of Attica, five miles distant from the harbour of the Piræus, its port. The site of ancient Marathon is about twenty miles north-east of the capital. *Thebes* (the ancient metropolis of Bœotia) is to the north-west of Athens. The village of Kastri, further to the west, represents the ancient Delphi.

Nauplia and *Patras*, both situated within the Morea, are, next to Athens, the most important seats of Greek commerce. *Syra* is the chief commercial town among the Greek islands.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—Modern Greece forms a kingdom, only established in 1832, previous to which the country had formed part of the Turkish dominions. The people are members of the Greek Church.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS are situated to the west and south of Greece. They consist of seven principal islands, viz.:—

Corfu, Paxo, Santa Maura, Ithaca, Cephalonia, Zante, and Cerigo.

These islands enjoy a delightful climate, and are famous for their abundant produce of the small species of grape which furnishes the dried currants of commerce. The olive and the vine also flourish. The population numbers 250,000.

The Ionian Islands form a dependent portion of the British empire, and are governed by a Lord High Commissioner. The town of *Corfu* is the capital.

ITALY.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—Italy forms a peninsula, which bears some resemblance in shape to a boot. It is bounded on the north by Germany and Switzerland; on the north-west by France; on the south-west and south by the Mediterranean Sea; on the east by the Adriatic Sea.

GULFS AND STRAITS.—The former are—the Adriatic Sea (the north part of which forms the Gulf of Venice), the Gulf of Taranto, the Bay of Naples, and the Gulf of Genoa.

The straits are as follow:—

Strait of Otranto.....at the entrance of the Adriatic.
Strait of Messina.....between Italy and the island of Sicily.
Strait of Bonifacio.....between the islands of Sardinia and Corsica.

CAPES.—The principal are—

Cape Spartivento.....the southernmost point of the Italian mainland.
Cape di Leuca.....the south-east point of ditto.
Cape Passaro.....the south-east point of Sicily.

ISLANDS.—The three larger Italian islands are Sicily, Sardinia, and Corsica. The last named belongs to France.

The smaller islands are Malta, Elba, and the Lipari group, with a few of less note. Malta belongs to Great Britain, Elba to Tuscany, and the Lipari Islands to the kingdom of Naples and Sicily.

MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS.—The Alps encircle the north of Italy, dividing it from France, Switzerland, and Germany. All the higher portions of these mountains are covered with unmelting snow. Mont Blanc, which is the highest summit of the Alps, is on the border of Piedmont and Savoy, within the kingdom of Sardinia. The Apennines stretch, in a long chain, through the peninsular portion of Italy. Mount

Vesuvius, near the city of Naples, is an active volcano—the only one upon the European mainland. Mount Etna, in the island of Sicily, is also a volcano, and of much greater height.

The plain of Lombardy, in the north of Italy, is the most fertile portion of the country.

RIVERS AND LAKES.—The four chief rivers are—

The Po	which flows into the	Adriatic Sea.
The Adige	"	Do.
The Arno	"	Mediterranean.
The Tiber	"	Do.

The most considerable of these rivers is the Po.

The principal lakes are—

Maggiore, Lugano, Como, and Garda, situated among the southern valleys of the Alps.

Perugia, Bolsena, Bracciano, and Fucino, in the middle portion of the Italian Peninsula.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—Italy, like all the countries that border on the Mediterranean, has a warm climate, and is distinguished by its rich and luxuriant vegetation. The vine, olive, fig, and mulberry, are among its fruits; and crops of the finest wheat are raised. The territory of Naples, in the south of Italy, yields the chief supply of sulphur to Britain and other countries. The island of Elba furnishes iron-ore, which has been worked from the times of the Romans.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—Italy has above 25,000,000 inhabitants. The Italians, however, are not subjects of one power, but are divided into several distinct sovereignties.

The industrial produce of Italy is varied, and large in amount. Wheat, olive-oil, silk, straw-plait, and wines, are its most important items. Lombardy is especially distinguished for the culture of the mulberry, reared for the purpose of supplying the food of the silk-worm. Piedmont and Tuscany are noted for their olive-oil; Tuscany also for its straw hats and plait. The silks and velvets which are the produce of the Sardinian looms rival those of France.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—Italy is divided into five principal, and four smaller states. The five principal states are—

States.	*Towns.*
SARDINIA	Turin, Alessandria, Genoa, Milan, Nice, Chambery, Cagliari.
NAPLES AND SICILY	Naples, Palermo, Messina.
STATES OF THE CHURCH	Rome, Bologna, Ancona.
VENETIA	Venice, Verona, Mantua.
TUSCANY	Florence, Leghorn, Pisa.

The four smaller states are—

States.	*Towns.*	*States.*
PARMA.....	Parma.	SAN MARINO.
MODENA.....	Modena.	MONACO.

THE KINGDOM OF SARDINIA, which embraces the north-west portion of Italy, was enlarged in 1859 by the acquisition of Lombardy—the most fertile and populous portion of the country, which had previously been a province of Austria. *Turin*, the capital of the Sardinian monarchy, is on the river Po, in the territory called Piedmont. *Genoa*, its principal seaport, is at the head of the gulf called by its name. *Milan* is the chief city of Lombardy; it stands on the river Olona, a tributary of the Po. *Chambery* is the chief place in the province of Savoy. *Cagliari* is the chief town in the Island of Sardinia, which gives its name to the Sardinian monarchy.

THE KINGDOM OF NAPLES AND SICILY includes the southern portion of the Italian peninsula, with the neighbouring island. The city of *Naples*, its capital, is on the shore of the beautiful bay of that name. *Palermo* and *Messina* are the two largest cities in the Island of Sicily.

THE STATES OF THE CHURCH (or Papal territory) stretch across the Italian peninsula, from the Mediterranean coast to the Adriatic. The city of *Rome*, the residence of the Pope, and the capital of his temporal dominions, is on the river Tiber, a few miles above its mouth. *Bologna* is to the eastward of the Apennines. *Ancona* is a seaport on the Adriatic.

VENETIA (or Austrian Italy) is a province of the Austrian empire. The portion of Italy over which Austria ruled was of more than double its present extent, until the triumphs of the united French and Sardinian arms, in 1859, occasioned the transfer of Lombardy to Sardinian rule. *Venice*, the chief city of Austrian Italy, stands on the shore of the Adriatic, in the middle of lagoons. *Verona* is a strongly-fortified city on the Adige. *Mantua*, also a place of great strength, is on the Mincio, a tributary of the Po.

TUSCANY lies on the west side of the Italian peninsula, between the Apennines and the Mediterranean. Its capital, *Florence*, is on the river Arno. *Leghorn*, its chief seaport (and the great seat of the foreign commerce of Italy), is on the coast of the Mediterranean. *Pisa* is on the Arno.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—SARDINIA is a kingdom, and is the only one of the Italian States that enjoys the blessings of a free constitution. NAPLES AND SICILY, also a kingdom, exhibit a cruel and imbecile despotism. The STATES OF THE CHURCH are under the temporal rule of the Pope. VENETIA is merely a province of Austria, whose rule in Italy is only maintained by military force.

TUSCANY constitutes a Grand-Duchy. PARMA and MODENA are Duchies. The people of these three states have proposed to unite themselves to the Sardinian monarchy. The little town of SAN MARINO, situated east of the Apennines, and enclosed by the Papal States, ranks as a sovereign republic. MONACO, which forms a sovereign principality, is a small territory enclosed by the Sardinian States, and bordering on the Mediterranean.

In point of religion, the Italians are uniformly members of the Church of Rome.

The island of MALTA, to the south of Sicily, belongs to Great Britain, and is highly valued as a naval station. The chief town is *Valetta*.

SPAIN.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—Spain is bounded on the north by France and the Bay of Biscay; on the west, by the Atlantic Ocean, the kingdom of Portugal, and the Atlantic; on the south and east, by the Mediterranean Sea. It is more than three times larger than England and Wales, and nearly equal in size to France.

CAPES.—The principal are—

Cape Ortegal.....the north-west point of Spain.
Cape Finisterre.....on the west coast.
Cape Trafalgar.....on the south-west coast.
Cape Tarifa.....the southernmost point of Spain, and of Europe.
Cape Creuse. .....the eastern extremity of the Pyrenees.

ISLANDS.—Majorca, Minorca, Iviça (called together the Balearic Islands), in the Mediterranean Sea. The Canary Islands, in the Atlantic Ocean, belong to Spain, and form one of its provinces.

NATURAL FEATURES.—The interior of Spain is a high table-land. The whole peninsula is crossed by mountain-chains, which have the general direction of east and west. These chains are—

Pyrenees.....on the borders of France and Spain.
Cantabrian Mountains.....extending west from the Pyrenees to Capes Ortegal and Finisterre.
Castilian Mountains.....stretching across the interior of Spain.
Mountains of Toledo..... Do. do.
Sierra Morena..... Do. do.
Sierra Nevada.....in the south, along the Mediterranean coast.

RIVERS.—The principal are—

Minho	flowing	into the Atlantic.	Guadalquivir	flowing	to the Atlantic.
Douro	"	Do.	Ebro	"	Mediterranean.
Tagus	"	Do.	Xucar	"	Do.
Guadiana	"	Do.	Segura	"	Do.

The Douro, Tagus, and Guadiana, have their lower courses through the kingdom of Portugal.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate of Spain exhibits great varieties. The north is temperate: the middle parts are liable to great extremes of heat and cold—parched in summer by intense heat, and piercingly cold in winter: the south and south-east are hot, like southern Europe in general.

The vegetation is equally various. In the north, upon the shores of the Bay of Biscay, the fruits common to the south of England flourish. In the south and south-east, along the Mediterranean coasts, the foliage is evergreen, and the fruits are such as belong to southern lands. The orange, lemon, citron, and fig, are here abundant; the sugar-cane thrives, and the rich foliage of the banana and other tropical fruits is seen beside the groves of myrtle, oleander, and Indian fig.

Spain has also valuable mines of quicksilver, lead, and other metals.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The population amounts to nearly 16,000,000. The pursuits of industry are not generally in a flourishing state. Sheep are reared in vast numbers on the interior plains. The silk manufacture is pursued, principally at Valencia. The chief articles of produce which Spain supplies are wines, fruits (raisins, oranges, figs, &c.), wool, salt, barilla, quicksilver, lead, and cobalt; with leather, olive-oil, and cork-wood. The foreign trade carried on with France and England is considerable. The sherry-wines so largely consumed in the latter country are the produce of the south-west of Spain, in the vicinity of Cadiz.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—Spain is now divided into forty-nine provinces. But the older division into thirteen provinces—some of them formerly separate kingdoms—is more generally followed; and (as in the case of France) the names of these provinces are inseparably mixed up with the historic records of the country.

The thirteen older provinces of Spain, with the chief towns in each, are as follow:—

Provinces.	*Towns.*
NEW CASTILE	Madrid, Toledo, Cuidad-Real.
OLD CASTILE	Burgos, Santander.
LEON	Valladolid, Salamanca, Cuidad-Rodrigo.
ESTREMADURA	Badajos.
ANDALUSIA	Seville, Malaga, Granada, Cordova, Cadiz, Xeres, San Lucar.
MURCIA	Murcia, Cartagena.
VALENCIA	Valencia, Alicant.
CATALONIA	Barcelona, Tarragona.
ARAGON	Saragossa.
NAVARRE	Pamplona.
BISCAY	Bilboa, St Sebastian.
ASTURIAS	Oviedo.
GALICIA	Corunna, Santiago, Ferrol, Vigo.

Madrid, the capital of Spain, lies in the centre of the kingdom, upon the little stream of the Manzanares, a tributary of the Tagus. *Toledo*, to the south-west, is an ancient and now decayed city on the Tagus. *Valladolid*, at a former time the capital of the Spanish monarchy, is within the valley of the Douro. *Seville* and *Cordova*, both of them famous in the historic annals of Spain, are situated on the river Guadalquivir. *Cadiz*, on the south-west coast, is one of

the chief seaports of the kingdom, and the seat of the wine trade. *Granada*, the former splendid capital of the Moorish princes, is near the northern base of the Sierra Nevada, beside the little stream of the Darro, a tributary of the Guadalquivir.

Valencia, one of the most flourishing of Spanish cities in the present day, is near the east coast. *Barcelona*, further north, on the shore of the Mediterranean, is the second city in Spain in point of size, and has extensive foreign commerce.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—Spain is a kingdom, under constitutional forms; but the long period of misgovernment under which the country has laboured, until within a recent time, has injured its resources and retarded its progress. The Spanish people are followers of the Church of Rome.

Spain possesses the following foreign dependencies—a mere fragment of those which, until within the last half-century, owned her sway :—

In the West Indies.....Cuba and Porto Rico.
In the East Indies.....the Philippine Islands.
On the North coast of Africa.....the town of Ceuta, opposite to Gibraltar.

The Canary Islands, off the west coast of Africa, are an integral portion of the kingdom.

GIBRALTAR, in the extreme south of Spain, is a possession of the British Crown. It was captured by an English squadron in 1704, and has ever since been retained in British possession.

The town of Gibraltar occupies the western declivity and base of a lofty rock, which advances a length of four miles into the sea, and terminates to the southward in Europa Point. A narrow and sandy isthmus connects this rock with the mainland of Spain. The natural strength of Gibraltar is increased by extensive fortifications, and its position at the entrance of the Mediterranean renders it of great importance as a naval station.

PORTUGAL.

BOUNDARIES, &C.—Portugal is bounded on the north and east by Spain; on the west and south by the Atlantic Ocean.

CAPES.—The two principal are—

Cape Roca.....the westernmost point of the European continent.
Cape St Vincent....the south-west point of Portugal.

MOUNTAINS.—The high grounds of Portugal are extensions

of the Spanish mountain-chains. The highest are the Sierra d'Estrella, to the northward of the Tagus.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers of Portugal are the Minho, Douro, Mondego, Tagus, and Guadiana, all flowing into the Atlantic. Only one of the number—the Mondego—is wholly Portuguese. The four others have the larger portion of their courses in Spain.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate of Portugal is warm and equable. Lisbon, its capital, exhibits remarkably little variation of temperature throughout the year.

The natural productions resemble those of the south and south-east coasts of Spain. The vine and the olive, the orange, lemon, citron, almond, and fig, the myrtle and the cork-tree, abound. The mineral resources of the country comprehend copper, lead, and numerous other metals; very few of them, however, are worked.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The population is 3,500,000. Industry is in a backward condition. The most important article of produce is port wine, and the foreign trade consists in the export of wine, with lemons, almonds, and other fruits. The valley of the Douro, above Oporto, constitutes the wine district.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—Portugal includes the following six provinces:—

Provinces.	*Towns.*
ESTREMADURA	Lisbon, Setubal, Santarem.
ALEMTEJO	Evora, Elvas.
BEIRA	Coimbra.
TRAS-OS-MONTES	Ville Real.
ENTRE DOURO E MINHO	Oporto.
ALGARVE	Faro.

Lisbon and *Oporto* are the only two considerable cities of Portugal. Lisbon, at the mouth of the river Tagus, is the capital, and Oporto, near the mouth of the Douro, is the seat of the wine trade.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—Portugal is a kingdom, under constitutional forms. Like Spain, it has suffered much from misgovernment, but has improved within a recent period. The religion of the Portuguese is Roman Catholic.

The foreign possessions of the Portuguese Crown—much less extensive now than at a former period—are:—

Azores, or Western Islands	in the Atlantic Ocean.
Madeira	off the west coast of Africa, do.
Cape Verde Islands	Do. do.
St Thomas and Princes Island	in the Gulf of Guinea.
Angola and Benguela	in Western Africa, south of the equator.
Mozambique	on the east coast of Africa, do.
Goa	on the west side of Hindostan, in Asia.
Macao	in the south of China, Do.

ASIA.

BOUNDARIES.—ASIA is the largest division of the earth. It is bounded on the north by the Arctic Ocean; on the east by the Pacific Ocean; on the south by the Indian Ocean; on the west by the Red, Mediterranean, Black, and Caspian Seas, with the chains of Mount Caucasus and the Ural Mountains.

EXTENT.—Asia is more than 5000 miles across from east to west, and about 4000 miles from north to south. Its area is 17,500,000 square English miles, so that it is nearly five times larger than Europe. It embraces more than a third part of all the land upon the surface of the globe.

In shape, Asia is less irregular than Europe. Its vast interior exhibits an immense and solid expanse of land, far removed from the ocean; but its coasts, both on the east and the south, are indented by arms of the sea.

SEAS, GULFS, AND BAYS.—The Arctic Ocean, on the *north* of Asia, has the two following gulfs:—

Gulf of Obi.	Gulf of Yenesei.

The Pacific Ocean, on the *east* side, has the following:—

Sea of Kamschatka.	Gulf of Tartary.
Sea of ORotsk.	Yellow Sea.
Japan Sea.	China Sea.

The Indian Ocean, on the *south* of Asia, has:—

Bay of Bengal.	Persian Gulf.
Arabian Sea.	Red Sea.

The Red Sea and the Persian Gulf are true inland seas.

STRAITS.—The most important straits of Asia are:—

Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb...forming the entrance to the Red Sea.
Strait of Ormuz.....forming the entrance to the Persian Gulf.
Strait of Malacca.....forming one entrance to the China Sea.
Strait of Sunda.....forming another entrance to the China Sea.
Behring Strait.....between Asia and North America.

Besides these, there are the Dardanelles and the Channel of Constantinople, which are European as well as Asiatic.

The broader Channel which extends between the Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb and the Indian Ocean is called the Gulf of Aden, and the similar channel which leads to the Strait of Ormuz is called the Gulf of Omaun.

CAPES.—The principal are :—

North Cape of Asia.....in Siberia (northernmost point).
East Cape..... Do. (easternmost do.)
Cape Lopatka.....the south point of Kamschatka.
Cape Romania.....the south point of Asia (Malay peninsula).
Cape Comorin.....the south point of India.
Cape Al-Had.....south-east point of Arabia.
Cape Carmel.....on the coast of Syria.
Cape Baba.....the west point of Asia (Asia Minor).

PENINSULAS.—These are seven in number :—

Kamschatka.	Malaya.
Corea.	India Proper.
India beyond the Ganges (or the Indo-Chinese peninsula).	Arabia.
	Asia Minor.

The Malay peninsula (or Malaya) is the extreme southward portion of India beyond the Ganges.

ISTHMUSES.—The two principal are :—

Isthmus of Suez.....which unites Asia to Africa.
Isthmus of Krah.....which joins the Malay peninsula to the rest of the continent.

ISLANDS.—Asia comprehends a vast number of islands :—

In the Arctic Ocean, on the north of Asia, are :—

Liakhov, or New Siberian, Islands.

In the Pacific Ocean.

Aleutian Islands.	Japan Islands.	Sagallen.
Kurile Islands.	Loo-choo Islands.	

In the China Sea.

Formosa. | Hainan.

The East Indian Archipelago, lying between the Pacific and Indian Oceans, includes :—

Borneo.	Celebes.	Lesser Sunda Islands
Sumatra.	Philippine Islands.	(Sumbawa, Flores,
Java.	Molucca, or Spice Islands.	Timor, &c.)

In the Indian Ocean.

Ceylon.	Laccadive Islands.
Andaman Islands (Bay of Bengal).	Maldive Islands.
Nicobar Islands, do.	

In the Mediterranean Sea.

Cyprus, with Rhodes, Kos, Samo, Mytilene, and other islands of the Archipelago.

HIGHLANDS AND MOUNTAINS.—The mountains of Asia are the highest in the world; but they are, notwithstanding, of inferior importance to its vast and elevated masses of table-land. The mountain-chains of Asia generally form the outer borders of these interior plateaus.

The principal table-lands, or highlands, of Asia are :—

1. Tibet.	4. Iran, or Persia.	7. The Deccan, (India).
2. Mongolia.	5. Armenia.	8. Arabia.
3. Afghanistan.	6. Asia Minor.	

These regions are of various heights, ranging between 2500 and 16,000 feet. The most elevated of them is Tibet, the plains of which are 16,000 feet (or upwards of three miles) above the sea. Tibet is, hence, comparatively to its latitude, a cold country.

The principal mountain-chains of Asia are :—

Himalaya Mountains.....between India and Tibet.
Kuen-luen.....between Tibet and Chinese Turkestan.
Thian-shan (Celestial Mountains)...through Chinese Turkestan and Mongolia.
Altai Mountains.....between Mongolia and Siberia.
Hindoo-Koosh.....between Afghanistan and Turkestan.
Mountains of Armenia.....on the plateau of Armenia (Asiatic Turkey and Russia).
Mount Taurus.....in Asia Minor.
Vindhya Mountains.....in India, on the northern border of the Deccan.
The Ghauts.....on the eastern and western coasts of India.
Mountains of Lebanon.....on the coast of Syria, bordering the Mediterranean.

The highest of these chains is the Himalaya, all the upper portions of which rise above the line of perpetual snow. The most elevated of the Himalaya peaks is Mount Everest, which reaches 29,000 feet above the sea, and is the highest known mountain on the globe. This is nearly double the altitude of Mont Blanc, the highest of the Alps.

PLAINS.—The lowlands of Asia occupy its outer borders, towards the sea. Their names are :—

Plain of Siberia.....occupying all the north of Asia.
Plain of Turkestan.....embracing the country to the south and east of Lake Aral.
Plain of China.....in the north-east of China, along the Yellow Sea.
Plain of Tonquin.....in the north part of Anam, along the Gulf of Tonquin.
Plain of Siam.....at the head of the Gulf of Siam.
Plain of Pegu.....in India beyond the Ganges, to the southward of Burmah.
Plain of Hindostan.....the northerly portion of India proper.
Plain of Mesopotamia and Babylonia.....in Asiatic Turkey.

DESERTS. — Asia contains some extensive deserts. They stretch, in nearly continuous succession, from the most central regions of the interior to the shores of the Red Sea. Their names are as follow :—

Desert of Gobi, or Shamo	in Mongolia (Chinese empire).
Indian Desert	in Hindostan, or India Proper.
Desert of Seistan	in Afghanistan.
Great Salt Desert	in Persia.
Syrian Desert	in the east of Syria (Asiatic Turkey).
Deserts of Arabia	in the interior of Arabia.

RIVERS.—The longest river in Asia (and the longest in the Old World) is the Yang-tsze-kiang, in China, which has a course of more than 3000 miles. The great rivers of Siberia —Obi, Yenesei, and Lena—come next in length, but they flow through a cold and barren region. The three chief rivers of India—the Indus, Ganges, and Brahmapootra—are among streams of the highest importance. The Indus is 1700 miles long, and the Ganges more than 1500 miles. The Euphrates and Tigris are also important rivers.

The chief rivers of Asia are as follow :—

Flowing into the Arctic Ocean.

Obi	flows through	Siberia.
Yenesei	"	Do.
Lena	"	Do.

Into the Pacific Ocean.

Amoor	flows through	Manchooria.
Hwang-ho	"	China.
Yang-tsze	"	Do.
Choo-kiang (or river of Canton)	"	Do.
Mekon	"	India beyond the Ganges.
Moinam	"	Do.

Into the Sea of Aral.

Syr, or Syhoon	flows through	Turkestan.
Amoo, or Jyhoon	"	Do.

Into the Indian Ocean.

Saluen	flows through	India beyond the Ganges.
Irawady	"	Do.
Brahmapootra	"	India Proper.
Ganges	"	Do.
Mahanuddy	"	Do.
Godavery	"	Do.
Krishna	"	Do.
Cauvery	"	Do.
Tapty	"	Do.
Nerbudda	"	Do.
Indus	"	Do.

Into the Persian Gulf.

Euphrates and Tigris	flow through	Asiatic Turkey.

Into the Caspian Sea.

Kour and Aras	flow through	Armenia.

LAKES.—The two largest lakes of Asia (if we except the Caspian Sea, which is partly European) are Aral and Baikal. Lake Aral is so large as to be sometimes called a sea, and, like the Caspian, consists of salt water. Lake Baikal is the largest fresh-water lake in the Old World.

The principal lakes of Asia are as follow:—

Aral	Turkestan.	Tong-ting	China.
Baikal	Siberia.	Poyang	Do.
Balkashi	Do.	Zurrah	Afghanistan.
Zaisang	Mongolia.	Bakhtegaun	Persia.
Oubsa	Do.	Ooroomiyah	Do.
Lop	Do.	Van	Turkish Armenia.
Koko-nor	Do.	Goukcha, or Sevan	Russian Armenia.
Tengri-nor	Tibet.	Koj-hissar	Asia Minor.
Bouka-nor	Do.	Dead Sea	Syria.
Palte	Do.	Galilee, or Tiberias	Do.

CLIMATE AND NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.—Asia comprehends a greater variety of climates than any other division of the globe. This results from its vast extent of land, and its great range of latitude. The extreme south of the Asiatic continent nearly touches the equator, and its northernmost portions are within twelve degrees of the pole. Hence there are experienced, within different portions of its vast extent, every variety of temperature, from the burning heat of the tropics to the intensest cold of the frigid zone. In general, the eastern parts of Asia are colder than the western, and they have greater extremes of heat and cold at opposite seasons; that is, they have hotter summers and colder winters. Similar extremes distinguish the high plains of Central Asia. The quantity of rain that falls in most parts of Southern Asia is very great—vastly greater than is the case in any part of Europe. But it falls at particular seasons only, and within a brief space of time.

Three natural divisions, in respect of climate, may be marked out upon the map of Asia—1. A southern belt of countries, in which the air is hot and moist; 2. A middle belt, which is generally cold and dry, but with great extremes of summer and winter temperature; 3. A northerly zone, which is a region of intense and prolonged cold.

METALS AND MINERALS.—Asia furnishes some of the most valued productions of the mineral kingdom, including the diamond and other gems (found in Borneo and others of the islands of the East Indies, and also in Continental India), and the precious metals:—

Gold	is found in	Siberia (Ural and Altai mountains), Indo-Chinese countries, China, and Japan.
Silver	"	Siberia, China.
Lead	"	Do. do.
Iron	"	Southern and Western Asia in general.
Copper	"	Do. do.
Tin	"	Island of Banca (East Indies)
Coal	"	India, China, Burmah, Labuan Island (near Borneo), Asia Minor, Syria.

VEGETATION.—A great many of the food-plants most extensively used were originally derived from this quarter of the globe. Rice, and probably wheat, among the *cereals;* the date, fig, vine, plum, cherry, peach, apple, pomegranate, olive, mulberry, lime, walnut, almond, cocoa-nut, orange, lemon, citron, and banana, amongst fruits—together with the tea-plant and various spices—are all native to the soil of Asia. The sugar-cane, indigo, cotton, and hemp plants are also natives of Asia. There are, besides, an immense variety of forest trees, as the teak, ebony, iron-wood, sandal-wood, rose-wood, cedar, and many other valuable woods, besides abundant varieties of the oak, birch, cypress, and others.

Rice is the chief food-plant of southern Asia, and is the prime support of life to the immense population of China and India. The fruit of the date-palm supplies a like place to the people of Arabia and other parts of south-western Asia. The cocoa-nut palm is characteristic of the islands of southern and south-eastern Asia, with the shores of the two Indian peninsulas. The tea-plant is a native of China and Japan, and scarcely reaches beyond their limits. The high plateaus of central Asia are distinguished chiefly by the abundance of their grasses: boundless pastures stretch through the whole middle belt of Asia, from the shores of the Caspian to the banks of the river Amoor.

ZOOLOGY.—Among domesticated quadrupeds belonging to Asia are the camel, the elephant, the horse, and the ox. The camel ranges from the coasts of the Red Sea to the furthest extremity of the Gobi and the shores of Lake Baikal. The elephant belongs to the warm and watered regions in the south-east of the continent, including the two Indian peninsulas and the island of Ceylon. Animals belonging to the ox tribe, and also antelopes, are particularly numerous.

Amongst carnivorous quadrupeds, the lion, tiger, leopard, hyena, wolf, and jackal, are natives of Asia. The range of the lion is now restricted to the countries lying between the Euphrates and the Indian desert. The tiger frequents the woods and jungles through all southern and south-eastern Asia. The hyena and jackal belong chiefly to western Asia: the wolf to the colder districts of the north and west. Numerous fur-bearing animals are native to the extreme north of Asia—among them the bear, glutton, badger, wolf, fox, lynx, pole-cat, weasel, ermine, marten, otter, and sable.

The *population* of Asia comprehends at least half the

human race, and probably numbers upwards of 600,000,000. China alone is said to contain more than 300,000,000 of people, and India has 180,000,000.

The Chinese, the Indo-Chinese, and the Mongolian tribes belong to what is called the Mongol variety of the human race. They have a yellowish-brown (or olive) complexion; a broad and flattened face, with obliquely-set and deeply-sunk eyes (the inner corner slanting down towards the nose); lank and black hair, with little beard; a broad, square, and thick-set frame, with a stature considerably below that of Europeans. The Malays, who inhabit the Malay peninsula and the islands of the East Indian Archipelago, belong to a distinct stock of nations.

COUNTRIES OF ASIA.

Asia is divided into the following countries:—

TURKEY.	BURMAH.	MANCHOORIA.
ARABIA.	SIAM.	COREA.
PERSIA.	ANAM.	TURKESTAN.
AFGHANISTAN.	CHINA.	SIBERIA.
BELOOCHISTAN.	TIBET.	JAPAN.
INDIA.	MONGOLIA.	EAST INDIAN ISLANDS.

TURKEY IN ASIA.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—Turkey in Asia is bounded on the north by the Black Sea; on the west and south-west by the Mediterranean; on the south by the Arabian Desert; and on the east by Persia and the Russian territory of Transcaucasia. Its area is about 500,000 square miles—about ten times greater than that of England.

Turkey in Asia comprehends three distinct regions:—1. Asia Minor; 2. Syria; 3. The Countries on the Euphrates and Tigris.

COASTS, GULFS, &c.—The Dardanelles and the Channel of Constantinople divide Turkey in Asia from European Turkey. On the west coast of Asia Minor are the gulfs of Mytilene, Smyrna, Samos, and Kos; on the south, the gulfs of Makri and Adalia; in the south-east (on the borders of Asia-Minor and Syria), the gulf of Scanderoon.

On the western coast of Syria is the Bay of Acre, bounded to the south by the headland of Carmel.

ISLANDS.—Cyprus, in the Mediterranean. Also numerous

islands in the Archipelago, amongst them Mytilene, Khio (or Scio), Samo, Kos, and Rhodes, near the coasts of Asia Minor.

MOUNTAINS.—The principal are:—

The chain of Mount Taurus	on the south side of Asia Minor.
Mount Olympus	in the north-west corner of do.
Mount Argæus	on the interior table-land of do.
Mountains of Lebanon	in Syria.
Mountains of Armenia.	

The interior of Asia Minor is a high table-land. Syria is chiefly a mountain-region. The countries on the Euphrates and Tigris consist of high plateaus and mountain-chains in their northerly portion; of low plains further to the southward, as the rivers approach the sea.

RIVERS.—The principal are:—

Euphrates } Tigris }	flowing into	the Persian Gulf.
Kizil Irmak, or Halys	"	Black Sea.
Orontes	"	Mediterranean.
Jordan	"	Dead Sea.

LAKES.—The most considerable are:—

Dead Sea	in Syria.	Koj-hissar	in Asia Minor.
Lake of Tiberias, or Sea of Galilee.	Do.	Van	in Turkish Armenia.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate is generally warm, excepting on the upland plains and in the mountain-regions. Among the natural productions are a variety of rich fruits and other valuable plants. The vine grows luxuriantly in the watered valleys, and the date-palm flourishes on the borders of the desert. Wheat, barley, rice, and maize, with tobacco, hemp, and flax, are articles of culture. The mineral produce includes coal (found on the north coast of Asia Minor, and also on the slopes of the Lebanon, upon the Syrian coast), together with ores of iron, lead, and copper.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRIAL PURSUITS.—The population of Turkey in Asia is about 16,000,000. Besides Turks—the ruling people—it includes Greeks, Syrians, Jews, Arabs, Armenians, Turkomauns, Koords, Druses, and many other tribes. The pursuits of industry are generally at a low ebb. The bulk of the population are engaged in agriculture, which, however, is pursued in a very inefficient manner, and scanty harvests are of frequent occurrence.

The amount of foreign trade is considerable. It is carried on chiefly with Britain and other European countries, from various ports upon the coasts of Asia Minor and Syria; and with the countries to the eastward of Turkey by means of

caravans which cross the Syrian and Arabian deserts. Smyrna, on the coast of the Archipelago; Trebizond, on the Black Sea; and Beyrout, on the Syrian coast, are the principal seats of maritime trade. The cities of Aleppo, Damascus, and Bagdad, are the chief centres of caravan traffic.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—The great division of Turkey in Asia is into:—

Divisions.	*Chief Towns.*
ASIA MINOR	Smyrna, Brusa, Kutaya, Koniyeh, Trebizond, Adana, Tarsus.
SYRIA	Damascus, Aleppo, Homs, Hamah, Beyrout, Acre, Jerusalem, Gaza.
COUNTRIES ON THE EUPHRATES	Bagdad, Erzeroom, Diarbeker, Orfah, Mosoul.

Each of these divisions embraces numerous governments, or pashaliks—so called from being under the rule of Pashas.

Smyrna is the largest city of Asia Minor, and the chief emporium for the commerce of the eastern Mediterranean. It is also of great historic fame, and was one of the seven churches of the Apocalypse. *Trebizond*, on the Black Sea, is also an important seaport. *Koniyeh*, in the interior of the peninsula, represents the ancient Iconium, and is interesting in connexion with the history of St Paul. *Tarsus* was the birthplace of that apostle.

Damascus, the largest city of Syria, stands in a fertile plain near the eastern foot of Anti-Lebanon, on the little river Barrada (the Abana of Scripture). *Aleppo*, in the north of Syria, has declined from the importance it formerly possessed. *Beyrout* is the chief port on the Syrian coast. The ancient Tyre and Sidon—now insignificant fishing-towns—are to the southward of Beyrout. *Acre* (the Accho or Ptolemais of Scripture, and the St Jean d'Acre of the crusaders) is further south.

The south-western portion of Syria embraces Palestine, or the Holy Land. The most important locality in Palestine is *Jerusalem*, the scene of our Saviour's sufferings, which stands on a rocky platform—enclosed on three sides by deep ravines—about midway between the Mediterranean and Dead Seas. *Bethlehem*, the birthplace of our Lord, is a village lying a few miles south of Jerusalem. *Hebron* is further south. *Jaffa*, on the coast, is the port of Jerusalem, and a place of some trade. It represents the ancient Joppa.

Nablous, the Shechem of Scripture, is to the north of Jerusalem. *Nazareth* is further north, and not far from the base of Mount Tabor. *Tiberias* is a small city lying on the western shore of the beautiful lake of Tiberias, or Sea of Galilee.

Bagdad, on the Tigris, is superior in size and importance to any other place in the eastern division of Asiatic Turkey. *Erzeroom* is an important city, situated near the source of the Euphrates, on a high plain, 6000 feet above the sea. *Mosoul* is on the western or right bank of the Tigris.

Among the many ancient sites which belong to the lands watered by the Euphrates and Tigris, two attract especial notice. These are *Nineveh* and *Babylon*, the former capitals of the Assyrian empire. The remains of Nineveh are found upon the east bank of the Tigris, opposite Mosoul. The ruins of Babylon lie upon either bank of the Euphrates, in the neighbourhood of the small modern town of Hillah (to the south of Bagdad).

GOVERNMENT, &C.—Turkey in Asia is under the same general government as European Turkey. Constantinople is the capital of the whole empire. The Turks are followers of the Mohammedan religion. The Greeks, Armenians, and others of the population, are Christians.

ARABIA.

BOUNDARIES, &C.—Arabia is a peninsula, bounded on the north by Turkey in Asia; on the west by the Red Sea; on the south and south-east by the Indian Ocean; and on the east by the Persian Gulf. Its size exceeds 1,000,000 square miles—about twenty times larger than England.

The Red Sea divides at its northern extremity into the Gulf of Suez and the Gulf of Akaba, which enclose between them the Sinai peninsula.

NATURAL FEATURES.—Arabia consists of high plateaus in the interior, bordered on three sides by mountain-chains. Between the base of the mountains and the sea there is a low and narrow plain called the Tehama, which is hot and arid. The group of the Sinai mountains, in the north-west of Arabia, fills the small peninsula of that name, and reaches upwards of 9000 feet in height.

The interior plains of Arabia are mostly desert, and derive their partial verdure entirely from the rains. Arabia has no rivers. Springs occur in abundance within the mountain region, and also, at distant intervals, within the desert. The presence of a perennial supply of water within the wilderness diffuses verdure around, and creates an oasis.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate is hot and dry, excepting in the higher parts of the mountain region. The low belt of the Tehama is intensely hot and arid: rain seldom falls there, and only occurs at distant intervals over large portions of the interior plateau.

The most fertile portion of Arabia is in the south-west, which was distinguished by the ancients as *Arabia Felix*, or the Happy Arabia. The vine, fig, peach, almond, and many other fruits, flourish in this region, and the coffee shrub is abundantly cultivated. The date-palm is found in every oasis of the Arabian wilderness.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The people of Arabia are divided between dwellers in towns, and dwellers in the wilderness. The latter live in tents, and move their encampments from place to place. These wandering inhabitants of the desert are called Bedouins, of whom there are numerous tribes. Their wealth consists in their flocks and herds—sheep, camels, goats, and horses: they look with contempt upon the dwellers in towns, and rejoice in the freedom of the desert.

The industry of the Arabs is pastoral and commercial. The traffic which passes through the country is considerable, and is carried on by means of *caravans*—that is, companies of persons who associate together for mutual protection in crossing the wilderness, consisting of merchants, guides, soldiers, and pilgrims. The camel is uniformly employed as a beast of burden, and is suited in a higher degree than any other animal for making the passage of the wilderness.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—Arabia includes the following divisions, seven in number :—

Divisions.	*Towns.*
SINAI REGION	Tor, Akaba.
EL-HEJAZ	Mecca, Medina.
YEMEN	Sana, Mocha, Aden.
HADRAMAUT.	
OMAUN	Muscat.
EL-HASSA.	
NEJD	Derayeh.

The Sinai peninsula has few inhabitants: it is a wilderness of rocks and mountains, alternating with arid plains and gravelly beds of torrents, destitute of water during three-fourths of the year. This region was the scene of the forty years' wandering of the Israelites. Mount Sinai, whence the law was delivered, is within the central and highest cluster of mountains, in the very heart of the peninsula.

The region of El-Hejaz is the Holy Land of the Mohammedans. *Mecca* was the birthplace and *Medina* the burialplace, of the Arabian prophet, Mohammed. *Sana*, the chief city of Yemen, is in the heart of the coffee district. *Muscat*, on the opposite coast of the peninsula, is a flourishing seaport, the chief emporium of Arabian commerce. *Aden*, on the south coast of Arabia—not far from the entrance of the Red Sea—belongs to England.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—The government common in Arabia is patriarchal in form. The Arabs are divided into different tribes, each one of which has its own head, or *sheikh*, who fills, in relation to the persons of whom the tribe consists, the place of the father of a family.

Arabia, as a whole, has never been subject to any single power. The territories of Yemen and Omaun are the most important of its native states, and are each ruled by a Sultan. The province of El-Hejaz forms nominally a part of the Turkish dominions. The Sinai peninsula belongs to Egypt. The Arabs uniformly follow the religion of Mohammed.

PERSIA.

BOUNDARIES, &C.—Persia is bounded on the north by the Caspian Sea and the deserts of Turkestan; on the east by Afghanistan and Beloochistan; on the south by the Persian Gulf; and on the west by Turkey in Asia. Its size is 500,000 square miles—about ten times greater than England.

MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS.—The interior of Persia is a high plateau, bordered on three sides—the north, west, and south—by mountain-chains. These mountains divide the elevated interior from the low country which lies along the Caspian Sea, the Persian Gulf, and the banks of the Tigris. The mountains of Elwund, near the western border, reach upwards of 11,000 feet in height; Mount Demavend, towards the Caspian, is still more elevated.

In the interior of Persia there is an extensive and arid region called the Great Salt Desert.

RIVERS.—The Kerkhah and the Karoon, both of which join the Euphrates; and the Sefeed-rood, which flows into the Caspian. The Euphrates forms part of the south-west border of Persia, and the Aras is on its north-west frontier.

The largest lake is Ooroomiyah, in the north-west, the water of which is intensely salt.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The interior plateau is distinguished by intensely hot summers, and correspondingly severe winters. The low plains that border on the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf are intensely hot.

The mountain-valleys of Persia, situated within the successive terraces through which its interior is reached, are its most favoured regions, both in climate and produce. The vine, the fig, the water-melon, and the peach, abound there, and a carpet of wild flowers covers the ground. The interior plateau is generally arid and unproductive.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—Persia has about 10,000,000 inhabitants. Their industry is chiefly pastoral. Among them are a people called the Iliyats, whose habits are similar to those of the Bedouins of the Arabian wilderness. Carpets, shawls, embroidered silks, sabres, and fire-arms, are among the manufactures of Persia.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—Persia includes the following provinces:—

Provinces.	*Towns.*
IRAK	Teheraun, Ispahaun, Hamadaun.
AZERBIJAUN	Tabreez.
GILAUN	Resht.
MAZANDERAUN	Saree, Balfroosh.
KHORASSAUN	Mushed.
FARS	Shiraz, Bushire.
LARISTAUN	Lar.
KERMAUN	Kermaun, Gombroon.
LURISTAUN	Khorramabad.
KHUZISTAUN	Shooster, Dizfool, Mohammerah.

Teheraun is the modern capital of Persia, but *Ispahaun* is of larger size, and of greater commercial importance. Ispahaun, however, has declined from the splendour which it once possessed.

Bushire, on the Persian Gulf, is the chief seat of the foreign commerce of

Persia. *Gombroon*, at the entrance of the gulf, belongs to the Sultan of Muscat. Near Gombroon is the little island of Ormuz, which gives its name to the strait that connects the Persian Gulf with the Indian Ocean. *Mohammerah*, at the junction of the river Karoon with the Euphrates, is a place of growing commercial importance.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—The sovereign of Persia is styled the Shah, and, as in all Oriental countries, exercises despotic power. The people are Mohammedans in religion.

AFGHANISTAN AND BELOOCHISTAN.

BOUNDARIES, &C.—Afghanistan and Beloochistan adjoin Persia to the eastward. Afghanistan is bounded on the north by Turkestan, on the east by British India, on the south by Beloochistan, and on the west by Persia.

Beloochistan is bounded on the north by Afghanistan, on the east by British India, on the south by the Indian Ocean, and on the west by Persia.

MOUNTAINS.—The chief part of Afghanistan consists of rugged mountains, with intervening plains and valleys. The highest mountains are the Hindoo-Koosh, in the north-east, which reach 20,000 feet. The Soleimaun Mountains divide Afghanistan from the plains that border the Indus. The Hala Mountains are on the east of Beloochistan.

Two famous mountain-passes lead from the high plateaus of Afghanistan to the valley of the Indus. These are the Khyber Pass and the Bolan Pass, on the great roads by which India is entered from the westward.

RIVERS AND LAKES.—The chief rivers of Afghanistan are the Caubool and the Helmund. The Caubool flows east, and joins the Indus: the Helmund has a south-westerly course, and terminates in the salt lake of Zurrah. Beloochistan has no rivers of note.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate of both these countries is distinguished by intense extremes of heat and cold. The natural productions are like those of Persia, and the ground yields abundance of fruits and grain wherever water is sufficiently plentiful.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—Afghanistan has perhaps 5,000,000 inhabitants, and Beloochistan about 1,500,000. The Afghauns are a hardy and warlike race of mountaineers. Many of them lead, in part, a wandering life, dwelling in tents

during a portion of the year. The Belooches are also rude and warlike. Both nations are devoted in great measure to pastoral pursuits.

TOWNS.—The three chief cities of Afghanistan are *Caubool*, *Candahar*, and *Heraut*, each of which is the capital of an independent principality, under a ruler styled the Khan. The chief city of Beloochistan is *Kelat*.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—In both countries the government is patriarchal. The people are divided into tribes, or clans, who own in general only the sovereignty of their own chiefs. They are uniformly followers of the Mohammedan religion.

INDIA.

BOUNDARIES, &C.—India reaches from the Himalaya Mountains to Cape Comorin, and from the river Indus to the head of the Bay of Bengal. Its boundaries are—on the north, the Himalaya Mountains; on the east, the empire of Burmah and the Bay of Bengal; on the west, Afghanistan, Beloochistan, and the Indian Ocean. The southern portion of India forms a peninsula, which terminates in Cape Comorin.

India embraces 1,200,000 square miles, an area which is ten times greater than that of Great Britain and Ireland united, and which exceeds, by upwards of twenty times, the dimensions of England and Wales.

MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS.—The chief mountain-chains are the Himalaya, the Ghauts, and the Vindhya Mountains. The Himalaya Mountains stretch in a well-defined line along the northern border of India, dividing that country from the table-land of Tibet. Their highest summit is Mount Everest, the highest elevation on the globe.

To the south of the Himalaya is a vast and fertile lowland plain: this is called the plain of Hindostan. The peninsular portion of India is to the south of this plain.

The Ghauts extend along the western coast of India, close to the shores of the Indian Ocean. Their highest summits do not exceed 8000 feet. The detached portions of high ground which extend along the eastern side of the peninsula are called the eastern Ghauts.

India thus embraces two great natural divisions—the north, which is the lowland plain of Hindostan: the centre and south, which is the plateau of the Deccan. The western side

of peninsular India is the Malabar coast; the eastern side, the Coromandel coast.

RIVERS.—The chief rivers of India are :—

Flowing into the Bay of Bengal.

Ganges.	Mahanuddy.	Krishna.
Brahmapootra.	Godavery.	Cauvery.

Flowing into the Indian Ocean.

Indus.	Nerbudda.	Tapty.

The two most important of these are the Ganges and the Indus, both of which have numerous tributaries.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate of India is hot, excepting in the hill regions, where a cool temperature results from altitude above the sea. These elevated tracts are accordingly resorted to for sanitary purposes. The changes of the Indian seasons are from rain to drought, and the reverse. These changes are connected with the *monsoons*, or periodical winds of the Indian Ocean and neighbouring lands. The eastern side of India is generally hotter, and more arid, than the western coasts.

The natural productions are rich and varied. The gold and gems for which India is traditionally celebrated are of less real value than the coal and iron which are extensively diffused through large portions of the country. Tin, copper, and other metals also occur.

India supplies all, or nearly all, the fruits that belong to southern Asia in general. Vast forests of teak and other trees clothe the seaward face of the Ghauts, and forests extend from the plains of northern India far up the declivities of the Himalaya. The least productive part of India is the region known as the great Indian Desert, and the neighbouring tract entitled the Runn of Cutch.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—India has 180,000,000 of inhabitants : 120,000,000 of these are subjects of Britain, and the great bulk of the remainder, though under various native sovereignties, are virtually under the controlling power of Britain.

The great mass of the people of India belong to the Hindoo race, the various families of which, however, exhibit many points of difference. The inhabitants of the provinces that border on the lower Ganges are of small stature and slender frame : those of the more inland provinces are a people of

larger proportions and greater strength. There are, besides, settled in various parts of India, and intermingled with the Hindoo population, descendants of Arabs, Armenians, Afghauns, Turks, and Abyssinians; together with Parsees, Jews, and people of various European nations (principally British). The Parsees, who are almost confined to the city of Bombay, are descended from the ancient fire-worshippers of Persia.

The Hindoos are uniformly followers of the Brahminical religion. Among their most characteristic social usages is the division into *castes*. Those of the native population not of Hindoo race are principally Mohammedans.

The industry of India is chiefly agricultural. Rice is the article of food most extensively consumed by the great mass of the population. The culture of the poppy—for the purpose of extracting opium—is extensively pursued within the valley of the Ganges, and also on the plateau of Malwa. Indigo, cotton, the sugar-cane, the coffee-plant, and the mulberry, are the objects of culture in various parts of India.

Fine silk and cotton fabrics, with shawls and various articles of ornamental attire, constitute the chief produce of Indian manufacturing skill. But the import of manufactured goods (principally from Britain); and the export of raw produce—chiefly opium, indigo, cotton, and rice—are the distinguishing features of Indian commerce. The opium is supplied to China.

DIVISIONS.—Three-fifths of the whole vast region lying between the Himalaya Mountains and Cape Comorin come under the appellation of BRITISH INDIA, and are subject to the direct rule of authorities appointed by the British Crown. Of the remaining two-fifths, the far larger portion is divided between various native sovereignties, subject in greater or less degree to British influence and control: these are called the PROTECTED STATES. There are, in addition, three native states, which are nominally independent of Britain: these last are distinguished as the INDEPENDENT STATES.

Prior to 1858, all the provinces of British India that are situate on the mainland were under the rule of the East India Company, subject only to a limited control on the part of the Crown. But in that year the political functions of the company were terminated by Parliament, and the whole of their vast dominions brought under the direct authority of the British Crown.

I.—British India.

British India is divided into three Presidencies—Bengal, Bombay, and Madras. The Presidency of Bengal is first in size and importance, and its governor ranks as Governor-General of India.

1. The Bengal Presidency includes the whole valley of the Ganges, from the Bay of Bengal upwards to the mountain-region, together with the Punjaub (or country of the five rivers). It embraces, besides, the large territory of Nagpore, in central India, and the province of Cuttack, at the mouth of the Mahanuddy.

Towns.—The principal towns within the valley of the Ganges are—

Calcutta.....on the river Hooghly, the principal arm of the Ganges.
Dacca .....to the east of the lower Ganges.
Moorshedabad...on the Hooghly, above Calcutta.
Patna.....on the Ganges.
Benares..... Do.
Lucknow.....on the river Goomtee, an affluent of the Ganges.
Allahabad.....at the junction of the Jumna with the Ganges.
Cawnpore .....on the Ganges.
Agra.....on the Jumna, an affluent of the Ganges.
Delhi ..... Do. do.

The following towns are within the Punjaub, or the districts attached to that territory:—

Lahore.....on the river Ravee, one of the rivers of the Punjaub.
Moultan.....on the river Chenaub, Do.
Simla .....near the river Sutlej, to the west of the upper Indus.
Peshawur .....to the west of the upper Indus.

The territory of Nagpore contains the town of *Nagpore*.
Cuttack contains the town of *Cuttack*, and also *Pooree*, or *Juggernaut*.

Calcutta is the capital of British India, and one of the great seats of its foreign commerce. It has half a million of inhabitants.

2. The Bombay Presidency, the smallest of the three, is wholly on the western side of India. Besides part of the country upon either side of the Ghauts, it includes the large province of Sinde, within the Indus valley.

The following towns are within the Bombay Presidency:—

Bombay .....situated on an island adjoining the coast.
Surat.....to the north of Bombay, at the mouth of the Tapty.
Baroche.....on the Nerbudda river, near its mouth.
Poonah.....on the table-land of the Deccan, east of the Ghauts.
Hyderabad .....in the province of Sinde, on the Indus.
Kurachee ..... Do., on the coast, west of the Indus.

3. The Madras Presidency stretches across the peninsula, from the eastern to the western coast. It includes the large territory called the Carnatic, with various other provinces. The most important towns are—

Madras .....on the Coromandel coast.
Tranquebar .....on the coast, at the mouth of the river Cauvery.
Masulipatam ....at the mouth of the river Krishna.
Arcot.....in the interior of the Carnatic.
Tanjore..... Do. do.
Calicut.....on the Malabar coast.

II.—The Protected States.

The Protected States of India, which are under various forms of native sovereignty, (the ruler bearing, in most cases, the title of Rajah,) are enumerated in the following list :—

States.	*Towns.*	*States.*	*Towns.*
Hyderabad	Hyderabad, Aurungabad.	Gwalior	Gwalior, Oojein.
Mysore	Mysore, Seringapatam, Bangalore.	Bhopaul	Bhopaul.
Cochin	Cochin.	Guzerat	Baroda, Cambay.
Travancore	Trivandrum.	Cutch	Bhooj.
Kolapore	Kolapore.	Rajpootana	Oodeypore, Jhoi-pore, Bikaneer.
Sawunt-Warree	Sawunt-Warree.	Bahawalpore	Bahawalpore.
Indore	Indore.	Hill States	Kanum, Nahun.
		Sikhim	Tumlong.

III.—The Independent States.

These, now reduced to three in number, are as follow :—

States.	*Towns.*
Cashmere	Serinuggur (or Cashmere), Islamabad.
Nepaul	Khatmandoo, Ghoorka.
Bootan	Tassisudon.

All the above are situated within the Himalaya region.

Two other European nations possess a few and comparatively unimportant stations in India. These are France and Portugal.

To the French belong—*Pondicherry*, a seaport town lying to the south of Madras; *Mahé*, on the Malabar coast (a few miles north of Calicut); and *Chandernagore*, a small town on the Hooghly River, north of Calcutta.

The Portuguese possessions consist of *Goa*, a small territory on the west coast of India; the port of *Damaun*, to the north of Bombay; and the town and port of *Diu*, further north. The city of Goa was once a splendid emporium of commerce, the chief mart of the Eastern world.

Islands.—The largest of these is Ceylon, which belongs to Britain, and forms a distinct colony.

Ceylon is more than half the size of England, embracing 25,700 square miles. Its interior includes a high mountain-region, the loftiest summits of which exceed 8000 feet. A

fertile belt of lowland stretches round the coast. The most characteristic productions are the cinnamon-plant and the cocoa-nut palm. Coffee is also largely grown.

Ceylon has upwards of 1,500,000 inhabitants. These are called the Singalese; they differ in some respects from the people of the Indian mainland, and are worshippers of Boodh. The chief town is *Colombo*, on the western coast. *Trincomalee*, a flourishing seaport, is on the north-east side of the island. *Kandy*, formerly the native capital, is in the interior.

The smaller islands are:—

Laccadive Islands	in the	Indian Ocean.
Maldive Islands	"	Do.
Andaman Islands	"	Bay of Bengal.
Nicobar Islands	"	Do.

The Andaman Islands have been occupied by Britain for the purposes of a convict settlement.

INDO-CHINESE COUNTRIES.

SITUATION, DIVISIONS, &c.—The Indo-Chinese peninsula (or India-beyond-the-Ganges) forms the south-east portion of the Asiatic continent. It extends from the Bay of Bengal on the west to the China Sea on the east. Three distinct countries are comprehended within this region—the empire of Burmah, the kingdom of Siam, and the empire of Anam.

BURMAH embraces part of the interior, towards the western side of the peninsula; SIAM includes its middle portion, with the shores of the Gulf of Siam; ANAM, or Cochin-China, is its eastwardly division. There are, besides, several territories belonging to Britain.

MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS.—The Indo-Chinese countries embrace three extensive plains:—

The Plain of Pegu	which	adjoins the Gulf of Martaban.
The Plain of Siam	at the	head of the Gulf of Siam.
The Plain of Tonquin	"	Gulf of Tonquin.

They also include some chains of high ground, which run in the direction of north and south, and divide the different river-valleys.

RIVERS.—These are four in number:—

Irawady	flowing into the	Gulf of Martaban.
Saluen	"	Do.
Meinam	"	Gulf of Siam.
Mekon	"	China Sea.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate is hot, and often unhealthy in the low grounds. The rains are abundant, and the change from the dry to the rainy season depends (as in India proper) upon the monsoons.

The vegetable productions are of the highest value. The forests include numerous valuable woods. There are various native drugs, spices, and gums. Gold is worked.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—Burmah has 3,000,000 inhabitants; Siam between 5,000,000 and 6,000,000; Anam, about 13,000,000. The Indo-Chinese people bear more resemblance to the Chinese than to the Hindoo races. They are more robust than the Hindoos, but short in stature.

The industry is chiefly agricultural. Rice, sugar, the mulberry, cotton, indigo, and tobacco, are largely grown: rice is the principal article of food. An extensive commercial intercourse is maintained with China, and the English trade with these countries is increasing.

The native governments are despotic, and the people in a condition of semi-barbarism. The Buddhist worship prevails.

TOWNS.—The principal towns are as follow:—

Countries.	*Towns.*
BURMAH	Ava, Amarapoora.
SIAM	Bang-kok, Ayuthia.
ANAM	Hué, Kachao, Saigon.

Ava, the chief city of Burmah, stands on the Irawady; as also does *Amarapoora*, a short distance above the capital. *Bang-kok*, the capital of Siam, is on the river Meinam, near its mouth, and is a busy emporium of maritime traffic. Many of the inhabitants are Chinese. *Hué*, the capital of the empire of Anam, is on the east side of the peninsula, upon the coast of Cochin-China. *Kachao* is the chief place in the province of Tonquin.

The greater part of the Malay peninsula belongs to Siam, but there are some small Malay States in the southern portion of the peninsula.

The BRITISH POSSESSIONS in the Indo-Chinese peninsula consist chiefly of provinces which have been acquired by conquest from the empire of Burmah. The names of these possessions, with their chief towns, are as follow:—

Provinces.	*Towns.*
ASSAM	Gowhatty.
ARACAN	Aracan, Akyab.
PEGU	Rangoon, Martaban.
TENASSERIM	Moulmein, Tavoy, Mergui.
PENANG, or PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND	Georgetown.
MALACCA	Malacca.
SINGAPORE	Singapore.

The most important town is *Singapore*, situated on an island of the same name, at the extremity of the Malay peninsula, within little more than one degree of the equator. It is one of the great marts of British commerce in the East. Penang, Malacca, and Singapore, are together known as the Straits Settlements, from their position on the Strait of Malacca.

THE CHINESE EMPIRE.

The empire of China is extended over more than a fourth part of Asia, and comprises an area which is considerably greater than that of all Europe. China itself constitutes a portion only of this widely-extended dominion. Tibet, Mongolia, Manchooria, and Corea, besides China proper, are included within the Chinese empire.

I.—China.

Boundaries, &c.—China is bounded on the north by Mongolia, on the east by the Pacific Ocean, on the south by the China Sea and the empire of Anam, on the west by Burmah and Tibet. The area of China is 1,300,000 square miles, which exceeds by twenty-six times the magnitude of England.

The Gulf of Pe-che-lee, the Yellow Sea, the East Sea, the China Sea, and the Gulf of Tonquin, wash different portions of the Chinese coast. All of these belong to the Pacific Ocean.

Mountains and Plains.—The greater part of China is mountainous. Its western and south-western provinces, especially, are covered with high mountain-chains, the peaks of which rise above the snow-line.

The north-eastern part of China is a fertile lowland, known as the Plain of China. This plain constitutes the most populous portion of the Chinese empire.

Rivers.—The principal are—

Yang-tsze-kiang	flowing into	the East Sea of China.
Hwang-ho	"	Gulf of Pe-che-lee.
Pei-ho (or Tien-tsin-ho)	"	Do.
Choo-kiang	"	China Sea.

The Yang-tsze is the longest river in the Old World, and is navigable for many hundred miles inland. Several large lakes adjoin its lower course.

Climate and Productions.—The climate of China is on the whole temperate, but has great extremes of heat and cold at opposite seasons. This is the case throughout central and western Asia.

Of natural productions, the tea-plant is the most remarkable. It grows principally in the south-eastern provinces, and is cultivated with great diligence. The orange, mulberry, jujube, sugar-cane, and cotton-plant, are native to China. The mineral produce includes coal, iron, coffee, lead, tin, and mercury, together with the precious metals.

Population and Industry.—The population is said to

number upwards of 360,000,000—a third part of the human race. The industry of China embraces alike, agriculture, manufactures, and commerce. Tillage is pursued with the utmost diligence, and rice constitutes the staff of life to the vast majority of the population. Silk and cotton goods are largely made. The earthenware (or porcelain) manufacture is a characteristic branch of Chinese industry.

The trade of China is of immense amount. China supplies the rest of the world with tea, which is exported in vast quantities to Britain, France, the United States, and other countries. Silk and nankeen stuffs, porcelain, with lacquered and other ornamental wares, are also exported. Opium, which is consumed by nearly all classes of the Chinese, is imported from British India. Pepper, betel-nut, sandal-wood, ebony, ivory, mother of pearl, and various articles of food, are obtained from the islands of the Indian Archipelago.

The Great Wall, and the Grand Canal, are two of the chief public works of China.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—China is divided into eighteen provinces. It contains a great number of large cities, among the most important of which are—

Pekin.....on the Pei-ho, in the north-east.
Nankin.....on the Yang-tsze, 600 miles above its mouth.
Shang-hae.....on the coast, at the entrance of the Yang-tsze.
Han-yang.....on the Yang-tsze, 250 miles above its mouth.
Hang-chow.....on the coast, at the southern termination of the Grand Canal.
Amoy.....on an island adjoining the east coast.
Canton.....at the head of the estuary of the Choo-kiang.
Fuh-chow.....near the east coast, on the river Min.

Pekin is the capital of the Chinese empire, and is said to have 2,000,000 of inhabitants. *Nankin* ranks as the second city of China. *Shang-hae* and *Canton* are the chief emporiums of the tea-trade. Macao, at the entrance of the Canton river, belongs to Portugal.
The large islands of Hainan and Formosa belong to China.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—The government of China is a strict despotism, based throughout upon the assumption of parental authority. The emperor is the recognised vicegerent of heaven, and the father of his subjects; through all the gradations of society the same notion of parental authority is carefully preserved. The prevailing religion is Buddhism.

The island of HONG-KONG, near the south coast of China, was ceded to Britain in 1842. It is hilly, watered, and tolerably healthy, and its situation, off the entrance of the

Canton river, gives it importance. Its area is 36 square miles. Its population numbers above 80,000. The chief town is *Victoria*.

II.—TIBET is an inland country, situated west of China. It is a vast plateau, 15,000 feet above the sea, bordered on the south by the stupendous range of the Himalaya, and crossed by other mountain-chains. The large river Yarrow, or Sanpoo, believed to form the upper portion of the Brahmapootra, flows through Tibet from west to east.

The climate of Tibet is cold; the habits of its people chiefly pastoral. Vast herds of sheep, mountain-goats, and buffaloes, are reared. The fine hair of the Tibetan goat is woven into the shawls of Cashmere.

Though under the recognised sovereignty of China, Tibet has a native ruler styled the Grand Lama, the high priest of the Buddhist religion, of which the town of *Lassa*, the capital of the country, is the head seat.

Ladakh and Little Tibet are mountainous regions lying to the westward of Tibet proper.

III.—MONGOLIA embraces a vast portion of central Asia, stretching from Tibet and China to the border of Siberia, and including the desert tract of the Gobi, or Shamo. It is chiefly a pastoral region, inhabited by nomade tribes, whose wealth consists in their flocks and herds, who pass a large portion of their time upon horseback, and whose habits are warlike.

There are few towns of any importance within this territory. *Cashgar*, *Yarkand*, and *Khoten*, towards the western frontier of the empire, are within the tract more properly known as Chinese Turkestan.

IV.—MANCHOORIA is an extensive country lying east of Mongolia, limited on the east by the Pacific Ocean, and on the north by the large river Amoor. Little is known concerning it. Leaotong, its southernmost province, is inhabited principally by Chinese.

V.—COREA is a peninsula which stretches southward from Manchooria, between the Yellow Sea and the Japan Sea. Its inhabitants are exceedingly jealous of intercourse with strangers, and the interior is unknown to Europeans.

The Loo-choo Islands, a group lying 400 miles to the east of the Chinese mainland, are a dependency of China.

TURKESTAN.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—Independent Turkestan is bounded on the north by Russia, on the east by Chinese Turkestan, on the south by Persia and Afghanistan, on the west by the Caspian Sea. It includes 1,000,000 square miles, and is divided into several states, each ruled by a Khan. The three principal Khanats are those of Bokhara, Khiva, and Kokaun.

NATURAL FEATURES.—The chief part of Turkestan consists of a lowland-plain, which slopes towards the Lake of Aral. Large portions of this plain are desert. In the south-east, towards the Hindoo Koosh, the country becomes mountainous.

Turkestan has two great rivers—the Amoo or Oxus, and the Syr or Jaxartes. Both flow into the Lake of Aral.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate is one of great extremes, and in the open plains the winters are excessively severe. But the watered valleys that occur within the mountain region yield fruits and grain in abundance.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The population is from 6,000,000 to 8,000,000, the greater number of Tartar or Mongol race. They are mostly cultivators of the soil, though some preserve the wandering habits of their forefathers, and occupy themselves chiefly with their flocks and herds. Silk is produced within the valley of the Oxus.

TOWNS.—The chief towns of Turkestan are—

Khanats.	*Chief Towns.*
BOKHARA	Bokhara, Samarcand, Balkh.
KHIVA	Khiva.
KOKAUN	Kokaun, Tashkend.

GOVERNMENT, &c.—Each of the States of Turkestan is styled a Khanat, from the title of its ruler. The authority of the Khan is despotic, and maintained by the power of the sword. The Mohammedan religion is uniformly followed.

ASIATIC RUSSIA.

Asiatic Russia comprises two distinct territories—one of them, SIBERIA, of vast size; the other, TRANSCAUCASIA, of much smaller extent.

I.—TRANSCAUCASIA.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—Transcaucasia is bounded on the north by Mount Caucasus, on the east by the Caspian Sea, on the

south by Persia and Asiatic Turkey, and on the west by the Black Sea. It includes 80,000 square miles.

NATURAL FEATURES.—Transcaucasia is a mountainous region. The chain of Caucasus rises above the snow-line, and El-burz, its highest summit, reaches 18,000 feet. In the southern part of the country, near the borders of Persia and Turkey, is Mount Ararat, 17,000 feet high.

RIVERS.—The chief river is the Kour, which flows into the Caspian Sea. It is joined, a short way above its mouth, by the Aras. The largest lake is that of Goukcha, or Sevan.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate is liable to great extremes of heat and cold, but is temperate on the average of the year. The productions of the soil include the vine, the mulberry, and the cotton-plant.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The inhabitants number about 2,500,000, who comprise people of various races—Georgians, Circassians, Armenians, and others. The majority belong to the Christian Church. Agriculture is the chief branch of industry.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—Transcaucasia is divided into four governments. The most important towns which it contains are *Tiflis* and *Erivan*. Tiflis is the chief city of Georgia, and is on the river Kour. Erivan is near the foot of Mount Ararat, on a tributary of the Aras.

II.—SIBERIA.

BOUNDARIES, &C.—Siberia is bounded on the north by the Arctic Ocean, on the east by the Pacific, on the south by the Chinese empire and Turkestan, and on the west by Russia in Europe. Its area is 4,000,000 square miles—greater than that of all Europe.

NATURAL FEATURES.—Siberia is a vast lowland plain. On its southern borders are the Altai Mountains, adjoining which the country is hilly, and in some parts fertile. Further to the north are immense level plains, or steppes, which become more barren and desolate as they approach the polar sea. In the extreme east is the peninsula of Kamschatka, through which runs a chain of lofty volcanic mountains.

RIVERS AND LAKES.—Siberia has three great rivers, among the longest in the Old World. These are the Obi, Yenesei, and Lena, all flowing into the Arctic Ocean. Lake Baikal, in the south of Siberia, is the largest lake in the Old World.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate is cold. It is

only in the south that a moderate temperature is experienced. The extreme north of Siberia surpasses any other region on the globe in the intense severity of its winter, which lasts nearly ten months.

The natural productions are of two kinds—metals and furs, both of great value. Gold, silver, lead, iron, and copper, are worked, principally among the mountain-regions of the Ural and Altai. The fur-bearing animals (sable, otter, &c.) are most abundant towards the east.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—Siberia has only two millions of inhabitants. Many of them are Russian exiles, condemned to work in the mines. The native tribes are chiefly hunters and fishers, and those dwelling in the eastern parts of the country are in a semi-barbarous condition. The people of Kamschatka are of short stature, and use the dog for purposes of draught. The commerce of this region is principally with China. The Russian and Chinese traders meet at Kiakhta, to the south of Lake Baikal, on the border-line between the empires.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—These are—

Governments.	*Towns.*
WESTERN SIBERIA.....	Tobolsk, Ekaterinberg, Omsk.
EASTERN SIBERIA.....	Irkutsk, Kiakhta, Yakutsk, Petropavlovski.

Irkutsk is the largest city of Siberia. It stands on the river Angara, a short distance below its issue from Lake Baikal. The town of *Petropavlovski* is on the east coast of Kamschatka. *Tobolsk* is at the junction of the river Tobol with the Irtish, the chief tributary of the Obi.

The Russian territory in this part of the world has been considerably extended within recent years. In the east it now includes the whole country lying northward of the great river Amoor; and in the west, the extensive tract occupied by the Kirghiz hordes. The Kirghiz are a wandering people, of pastoral habits, divided into three great hordes, who range over the steppes that stretch to the north of the sea of Aral.

EAST INDIAN ARCHIPELAGO.

SITUATION, &C.—The East Indian Archipelago lies to the south-east of the Asiatic continent. Among the principal islands which it includes are the following:—

Borneo.	Java.	Philippine Islands.	Timor.
Sumatra.	Celebes.	Molucca Islands.	Flores.

The four largest of these are Borneo, Sumatra, Celebes, and Java. Borneo is the largest island in the world.

SEAS, CHANNELS, &C.—The Pacific Ocean, the China Sea,

and the Indian Ocean, enclose this region. The various islands which it embraces are divided by numberless lesser seas and channels, among which are the following :—

Java Sea.	Flores Sea.	Strait of Malacca.
Celebes Sea.	Mindoro (or Sooloo) Sea.	Strait of Sunda.
Banda Sea.	Macassar Strait.	

The Strait of Malacca is between the Malay peninsula and the island of Sumatra.

The Strait of Sunda is between the islands of Sumatra and Java.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The East Indian Archipelago is crossed by the equator, and is principally within the torrid zone. The climate is therefore hot, but less so than that of the adjacent continent. The whole region is within the range of the monsoons, and experiences a copious fall of rain at particular seasons.

The natural productions are rich in the extreme. They include gold and precious stones in the mineral kingdom, and numerous valuable fruits and spices in the vegetable world. The nutmeg and the clove belong to the smaller islands of the Molucca group—formerly called, from this circumstance, the Spice Islands. The tree which yields gutta-percha is a native of Borneo and some other of the islands. Sago is the produce of the most eastwardly islands.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The entire population is upwards of 20,000,000. Java alone has above 11,000,000 inhabitants and the Philippine Islands above 5,000,000. The native races are in a condition of semi-barbarism. The ruling people, in most of the islands, are Malays, who are skilful navigators and active traders.

A large amount of trade is carried on. The English, Dutch, Americans, Chinese, and Malays, are the chief agents in it. Spices, gutta-percha, coffee, indigo, sugar, cigars, and tortoise-shell, are among the productions exported to Europe and America; edible birds' nests and the substance called tripang are articles principally in demand among the Chinese.

Portions of the East Indian Archipelago belong to the Dutch, the Spaniards, and the English.

The Dutch are masters of Java, of portions of Sumatra, Borneo, and Celebes, with some of the smaller islands of the Molucca group.

The Spaniards possess a considerable portion of the Philippine Islands.

The English possess only the little island of Labuan, off the coast of Borneo; but a great part of the commerce of this region centres in Singapore.

BORNEO is 270,000 square miles in area, or more than five times the size of England. It contains high mountains, navigable rivers, and dense forests, but its interior has not yet been explored by Europeans. The western and southern shores, with part of the east coast, belong to the Dutch. The province of Sarawak, on the north coast, has been ruled of late years by a British subject; but the larger portion of the island is divided amongst various native states, one of which includes the town and territory of Borneo, or *Brani*. Labuan Island is off the mouth of a navigable river which leads to this town.

SUMATRA is nearly three times the size of England. A chain of high mountains runs along its western coast. The chief stations of the Dutch are *Padang* and *Bencoolen*, on the western side of the island. There are numerous native states, one of the principal of which is *Acheen*, near its northern extremity.

JAVA is about 45,000 square miles in area—that is, not much less than the size of England. A chain of lofty volcanoes runs through the whole length of the island. Its chief city, *Batavia*, is the capital of the Dutch possessions in the East Indies. The smaller islands that stretch to the eastward of Java are chiefly Dutch. The Portuguese have a small settlement upon the north coast of Timor, the most eastwardly of the number.

CELEBES is chiefly divided among native states, but the Dutch possess the south-western part of the island, which includes the settlement of Macassar.

The MOLUCCA ISLANDS, to the eastward of Celebes, are principally Dutch. The most important among them is the small island of Amboyna.

The PHILIPPINE ISLANDS constitute one of the most important possessions of the Spanish crown. The largest of them is called Luzon, which is nearly equal to England and Wales in point of size. Mindanao is next in size.

All the Philippine Islands are mountainous, watered, and fertile. They produce tobacco, sugar, and rice in abundance. The chief city is *Manilla*, situated on the island of Luzon.

JAPAN.

SITUATION, &C.—Japan is an insular empire, situated to the eastward of the Asiatic continent, and within the Pacific Ocean. The largest island which it embraces is called Niphon; the next in size is Jesso. The area of the whole group is 160,000 square miles—more than three times greater than England.

NATURAL FEATURES.—The interior of Japan is scarcely known to Europeans. The islands are traversed by lofty mountains, among which are several active volcanoes. There are fertile plains between the mountains and the sea.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.—The climate of Japan is tem-

perate and healthy. Among its productions are included gold, silver, iron, copper, and tin; besides the tea-plant and the mulberry, with many trees that yield valuable gums and resins.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The population of Japan is variously stated at from twenty-five to fifty millions. Nothing is really known on this subject, but the country bears the appearance of populousness, and the cities are of large size.

The Japanese are an ingenious and a civilised people, though their civilisation, like that of all oriental races, differs in many respects from European civilisation. Their industry is displayed in the careful culture of the land, the good roads which connect the various towns and villages, their skilful manufacture of silk, cotton, and japanned wares. Rice, cotton, tobacco, the tea-plant, and the mulberry, are articles of extensive culture. The art of covering metals with varnish (*japanning*) derives its popular appellation from this country. Their porcelain displays much skill.

The government is a strict despotism, under military forms. The laws are severe, and the punishments sanguinary. The people are chiefly followers of the Buddhist religion.

TOWNS.—The chief towns of Japan are *Jeddo* (the capital), *Miako*, *Hakodadi*, and *Nangasaki*. Both Jeddo and Miako are on the island of Niphon. Hakodadi is near the southern extremity of Jesso. Nangasaki is on the west coast of the island of Kiusiu, which is to the south-west of Niphon.

It is only since the year 1854 that any other foreign nations than the Chinese and the Dutch have been allowed to visit Japan. But the governments of the United States, England, France, and some other states, now possess treaties of commerce with the government of Japan, in virtue of which certain of the Japanese ports are open to their ships.

AFRICA.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—AFRICA lies to the south-westward of Asia, and to the south of Europe. It is bounded on the north by the Mediterranean Sea, on the west by the Atlantic Ocean, on the east by the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean, on the south by the Southern Ocean. Although continental in point of magnitude, Africa forms in shape a vast peninsula, united to Asia by the isthmus of Suez.

EXTENT.—Africa measures 5000 miles across from north to south, and 4600 miles in the direction of east and west. Its area is 12,000,000 square miles. It is, therefore, upwards of three times larger than Europe.

SEAS, GULFS, &c.—Africa exhibits a solid, unbroken shape, its external contour little indented by the sea.

On the side of the Mediterranean, the two principal gulfs of Africa are, the Gulf of Sidra, and the Gulf of Kabes.

On the western or Atlantic coast of Africa is the Gulf of Guinea.

On the east side of Africa are the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden, and the Mozambique Channel. The Red Sea is entered by the Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb. The Mozambique Channel is between the continent and the island of Madagascar.

CAPES.—The following are the most important :—

On the North coast.

Cape Blanco.	Cape Ceuta.
Cape Bon.	Cape Spartel.

On the South coast.

Cape of Good Hope.	Cape Agulhas.

On the West coast.

Cape Bojador.	Cape Palmas.
Cape Blanco.	Cape Lopez.
Cape Verde.	Cape Frio.

On the East coast.

Cape Guardafui.	Cape Delgado.

Cape Blanco, on the Mediterranean coast, is the most northerly point of the African continent. There is another Cape Blanco on the western side of Africa.

The most westerly point of Africa is Cape Verde. The most easterly is Cape Guardafui. The most southwardly is Cape Agulhas.

ISLANDS.—The principal are—

In the Atlantic Ocean.

Madeira.	Princes Island.	Ascension.
Canary Islands.	St Thomas.	St Helena.
Cape Verde Islands.	Annabon.	Tristan d'Acunha.
Fernando Po.		

In the Indian Ocean.

Madagascar.	Comoro Islands.	Amirante Islands.
Bourbon.	Seychelle Islands.	Socotra.
Mauritius.		

Madagascar is second in size amongst the islands of the globe.

MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS.—The principal mountain-chains of Africa are—

Mount Atlas, which stretches along the northern coasts, through Morocco, Algeria, and Tunis.

Mountains of Abyssinia, between the Red Sea and the basin of the Upper Nile, in Abyssinia and the adjoining part of Nubia.

Kong Mountains, near the western coasts of tropical Africa, parallel to the shores of the Gulf of Guinea.

Nieuveld Mountains, in the extreme south of Africa.

The highest known elevations of the African continent are found among the Mountains of Abyssinia, which reach 15,000 feet. It is stated, however, that some summits near the east coast, in the immediate neighbourhood of the equator, are covered with perpetual snow, in which case they must attain a still greater altitude.

The interior of Africa exhibits, for the most part, vast plains. In its northern half is the immense expanse of the Sahara, or Desert; and, further in the interior, the fertile lowland of central Africa, watered by the Niger and the rivers that belong to the basin of lake Chad.

In the southern half of Africa, the interior consists of plains which are moderately elevated above the sea, bordered on either side by ranges of high ground.

DESERTS.—The Sahara, or Desert, is the most extensive among the natural features of Africa. It stretches through 3000 miles in the direction of east and west, and 1000 miles from north to south, and is by much the largest desert in the world. The general sterility of the Sahara is due to the absence of water, and the intense heat of the air, occasioned by the reflection of the sun's rays from an arid soil. But even the Sahara is not exclusively desert throughout. At distant in-

tervals there occur watered spots, or *oases*, where a perennial spring serves to supply the wants of men and animals who cross the wilderness, and to nourish a limited extent of surrounding verdure.

The most thoroughly barren portion of the Sahara is its westerly division—between Fezzan and the shores of the Atlantic—within which vast space the oases are generally at longer intervals apart than elsewhere. Extensive tracts are there covered with dry and heated sand, raised into hillocks, which shift their place under the influence of the burning wind known as the *simoom*, or samiel.

RIVERS.—The longest river of Africa is the Nile, which flows into the Mediterranean. The most distant source of the Nile has not yet been visited, but it probably rises south of the equator, and has a length of at least 3000 miles.

The other chief rivers of Africa are—

Flowing into the Atlantic Ocean.

Senegal.....through Senegambia.	Congo.....through Loango and Congo.
Gambia..... Do.	Coanza..... Angola.
Rio Grande..... Do.	Orange, or Garlep, ... Southern Africa.
Niger, or Quorra..... Central Africa.	

Flowing into the Indian Ocean.

Zambesi.....through interior of Southern Africa.

LAKES.—The northern half of Africa contains the following :—

Lake Chad	situated in	Soudan.
Lake Dembea	"	Abyssinia.
Lake Keroun	"	Egypt.

In the southern half of Africa, towards the east coasts, are the large lakes of Nyanza and Tanganyika, recently visited, for the first time, by Europeans, together with, more to the southward, lakes Shirwa and Nyinyesi. Farther in the interior is Lake Ngami.

CLIMATE AND NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.—Africa is the hottest division of the globe. More than three-fourths of its extent fall within the torrid zone, and these portions of the continent exhibit a broad and unbroken mass of land, upon which the rays of a vertical sun act with intense power. The vast expanse of the Desert (or Sahara), in particular, reflects an excessive amount of heat from its arid and waterless surface. The whole region forms a great natural furnace, the heated atmosphere generated in which is carried by the winds over distant lands and seas.

The climate of tropical Africa is for the most part dry, but a vast quantity of rain falls at particular periods of the year. The dry and rainy seasons succeed one another with perfect regularity. In the Desert, rain seldom occurs. But the plains of Central Africa, south of the Desert, and also the low districts of the eastern and western coasts, have regular and abundant rains, of annual recurrence.

The climate of tropical Africa is unhealthy to Europeans, excepting at a sufficient elevation to counteract the influences of intense heat, combined with the rank vegetation of the coasts. The extreme portions of Africa, both north and south, fall within the temperate zones. The plains and valleys of the Atlas region have a climate which resembles, in all essential regards, that experienced on the opposite shores of the Mediterranean. The Cape Colony, at the other extremity of the continent, is somewhat cooler.

METALS AND MINERALS.—Gold-dust, derived from the beds of numerous rivers within tropical Africa, has in all ages been an article of export. A part of Guinea is still distinguished as "the Gold Coast," though the quantity derived thence is now very small. The region of Mount Atlas includes ores of iron, copper, lead, and other metals. Iron and other useful ores occur within the Cape Colony, and the tracts watered by the Zambesi. Coal occurs within the valley of the Zambesi.

VEGETATION.—A vast number of the native plants of the African continent differ from those of other regions. But it is not until the Desert is passed that the difference becomes considerable. The rich fruits of southern Europe—the fig, almond, orange, lemon, vine, mulberry, and peach—all grow to perfection in the watered valleys of the Atlas. The plains that adjoin the southern base of the Atlas are the region of the date-palm, which is also seen in every oasis of the wilderness. But the Desert itself exhibits only a scanty covering of thorny shrubs and grasses, and its vast expanse forms a natural barrier to the passage of the various forms of life—vegetable and animal alike—that belong to the regions by which it is bounded upon either side.

The vegetation of tropical Africa displays trees of vast size, and of species unknown elsewhere. Among its native plants are the *shea* or butter-nut, the baobab or monkey-bread, the yam, ground-nut, the sugar-cane, indigo, and cotton-plant; and also the oil-palm. The highlands south of Abyssinia are the native region of the coffee-tree.

The extreme south of Africa is a third zone of vegetable life, in which such plants as the heaths, geraniums, and various bulbs, hold the most conspicuous place.

ZOOLOGY.—The lion, hyena, the giraffe or cameleopard, zebra, hippopotamus, rhinoceros, elephant, camel, and a great variety of the ox and antelope tribes, are among native African quadrupeds; the ostrich and the guinea-fowl among its birds, and the crocodile among its reptiles. The lion, elephant, and camel of Africa are different in species from those of Asia. Among the apes and other members of the monkey tribe, the chimpanzee and the gorilla of Western Africa make the nearest approach to the human figure.

POPULATION.—The great bulk of the inhabitants of Africa are negroes, of which branch of mankind this continent is the proper home. The people of Northern Africa are Berbers, Moors, and Arabs, of swarthy complexion, but perfectly distinct from the Negro type. The wandering inhabitants of the Desert belong also to the Arab stock. It is not until the southern limit of the Sahara is passed that Negro Africa begins. This is the region known in African geography as Soudan—*i.e.*, the land of the blacks, or Negro-land.

The dark skin, thick lips, and woolly hair of the Negro, are among the distinguishing features of that race. But there are numerous points of difference between the various Negro nations.

The extreme south of this continent is peopled by other varieties of the human family. The native races of Southern Africa are Hottentots and Caffres.

COUNTRIES OF AFRICA.

AFRICA includes the following divisions :—

NORTHERN AFRICA :—Embracing the countries of Morocco, Algeria, Tunis, and Tripoli.

THE NILE REGION :—Embracing Egypt, Nubia, and Abyssinia.

SOUDAN, OR NEGRO-LAND :—Consisting of Central Africa, the Western Coasts, and the Eastern Coasts.

SOUTHERN AFRICA :—Comprehending the Cape Colony, Natal, and Caffraria.

NORTHERN AFRICA, OR THE ATLAS REGION.

SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, &c.—Northern Africa embraces four distinct countries, MOROCCO, ALGERIA, TUNIS, and TRIPOLI. Morocco is the most westerly of the four, Tripoli the most easterly. They form together a continuous region, which stretches along the shores of the Mediterranean Sea and the nearest portion of the Atlantic.

Morocco is bounded on the west by the Atlantic Ocean, and has the Mediterranean Sea on a part of its northern frontier. On the south it is limited by the Desert.

Algeria lies to the east of Morocco. The Mediterranean Sea bounds it to the northward, and the Desert to the south.

Tunis is east of Algeria. On the north and east it has the Mediterranean; on the south, the Desert.

Tripoli is to the east of Tunis. It is a long and narrow strip of country, between the Mediterranean and the Desert, the sands of which here approach closely to the sea.

NATURAL FEATURES, CLIMATE, &c.—Mount Atlas is the most conspicuous among the physical features of this region. The plains between the Atlas and the sea, and the valleys enclosed within the mountain region, are the most fertile portions of the territory. The hill-sides towards the Mediterranean and Atlantic are luxuriantly wooded.

Northern Africa has no large rivers, but there are numerous winter-torrents, as well as some perennial streams of moderate size. The climate is warm, and generally healthy. The rains are copious, but confined to particular seasons.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The population of the whole region is estimated at 14,000,000. Morocco alone contains about 8,000,000. Tripoli has the smallest population.

The people of Northern Africa include *Kabyles* or *Berbers*, who dwell among the mountains, and are supposed to be the descendants of the aborigines; *Moors*, who are a mixed race, dwelling in the cities; and *Arabs*, who occupy the open country, and dwell for the most part in tents. Algeria, which belongs to France, has also among its inhabitants a great many Europeans, chiefly French.

The native productions of Northern Africa include wool, gum, bees'-wax, dates, olive-oil, and goatskins. These are exported, and the manufactures of Europe introduced in their place. Morocco leather is prepared with peculiar skill from the

skin of the native goat. The culture of cotton, tobacco, the cochineal-plant, and indigo, has been introduced into Algeria.

DIVISIONS AND TOWNS.—The chief towns are as follow :—

Countries.	*Towns.*
MOROCCO	Morocco, Fez, Mequinez, Mogadore, Tangier.
ALGERIA	Algiers, Constantine, Oran, Bona.
TUNIS	Tunis, Cairwan.
TRIPOLI	Tripoli.

Morocco, *Fez*, and *Mequinez*, are inland cities, situated within the plain at the western foot of the Atlas. *Mogadore* is the port of Morocco. *Tangier* is at the entrance of the Strait of Gibraltar, immediately beside Cape Spartel.

Algiers, the chief city of Algeria, is on the Mediterranean coast, as also are *Oran* and *Bona*. *Constantine* is in the interior. Both *Tunis* and *Tripoli* are maritime cities. The ruins of Carthage are in the vicinity of Tunis.

The region called Fezzan, to the south of Tripoli, is tributary to that state. The chief town is *Mourzook*, which is situated on the great line of caravan-travel between the northern coasts and the interior of the continent.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—All the native governments of Northern Africa are despotic. Morocco is ruled by a Sultan; Tunis by a Bey; Tripoli by a Pasha. Both Tripoli and Tunis are nominally subject to Turkey. Algeria has formed, since 1830, a province of France. The native population are uniformly followers of the Mohammedan religion.

THE NILE-REGION.

I.—EGYPT.

BOUNDARIES, &C.—Egypt is the lower portion of the Nile valley, reaching from the sea to the First Cataract, a distance of between five and six hundred miles. It is bounded by the Mediterranean Sea on the north; by Nubia on the south; upon the east, by the Red Sea; on the west, by the Desert.

NATURAL FEATURES, CLIMATE, &C.—Egypt has two great natural features—the river Nile and the Desert. Cultivation is limited to the lands that immediately adjoin the river, and over which its annual inundations reach. Towards its mouth the Nile divides into two arms, distinguished as the Rosetta and Damietta branches: the space enclosed between is called the Delta. This forms a watered and fertile plain.

The Nile overflows its banks annually, and lays the whole valley of Middle and Upper Egypt under water. Before returning to its proper channel, the river deposits a fertilising mud upon the inundated land, and the seed thrown upon this

moistened soil returns an abundant harvest. The climate of Egypt is warm and dry, rain being of rare occurrence.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—Egypt has 2,000,000 inhabitants, the vast majority of them belonging to the Arab race. There are a few descendants of the ancient Egyptians, or Copts, and also Turks (the rulers of the country), with Armenians, Syrians, Jews, and Europeans.

The industry is principally agricultural. Wheat, cotton, flax, sugar, hemp, tobacco, coffee, saffron, mulberries, and dates, are among the productions of Egypt.

DIVISIONS, &C.—The Nile valley is divided, within Egypt, into Lower, Middle, and Upper. The chief towns are:—

Divisions.	*Towns.*
LOWER EGYPT	Alexandria, Rosetta, Damietta, Suez.
MIDDLE EGYPT	Cairo.
UPPER EGYPT	Siout, Kenneh, Assouan.

Cairo, the capital, and *Alexandria*, the chief seaport, are the only two large cities of Egypt. *Rosetta* and *Damietta*, at the mouths of the Nile, are seaports of much smaller importance.

Cairo stands on the right bank of the Nile, and communicates by railway with both Alexandria and Suez. Alexandria is to the west of the Nile, on the Mediterranean coast: its name is derived from that of Alexander the Great, by whom it was founded 332 B.C. Suez is at the head of the Red Sea.

Egypt possesses numerous remains of ancient art, amongst them the Pyramids and the ruins of Thebes, both upon a scale of colossal magnitude.

GOVERNMENT, &C.—Egypt forms a province of the Turkish empire, and is governed by a Pasha, whose office is hereditary. The inhabitants are principally Mohammedans. The Copts, however, are members of the Christian Church.

II.—NUBIA.

BOUNDARIES.—Nubia is bounded on the north by Egypt; east, by the Red Sea; south, by Abyssinia; and west, by the Desert.

NATURAL FEATURES, CLIMATE, &C.—The great features of Nubia, like those of Egypt, are the Nile valley and the Desert. The two arms of the river—called respectively the Blue Nile and the White Nile—unite their waters at the town of Khartoom, in Upper Nubia: lower down, the Nile is joined by the river Tecazze, or Atbara.

The valley of the Nile is much narrower in Nubia than in Egypt, and the extent of cultivable land is proportionately less. The sands of the Desert approach, in some places, close

to the river's bank. The climate is hotter than that of Egypt. The acacia, mimosa, date-palm, sugar-cane, senna-plant, and ebony-tree, are among the productions of Nubia.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—Nubia has probably fewer than a quarter of a million inhabitants. By far the greater part of the country is an arid wilderness, tenanted principally by wild beasts. The industry of its few inhabitants is exclusively agricultural: they grow the grain called *dhourrah*, together with tobacco, and live in part upon dates.

TOWNS.—The chief towns are *Khartoom*, *Seinaar*, and *New Dongola*, all on the Nile. Khartoom is near the point of junction of the Blue and White Niles. *Souakin*, on the Red Sea, is the only port of Nubia.

GOVERNMENT, &c.—Nubia is subject to Egypt, and is ruled by a governor, resident at Khartoom. The country called Kordofan, west of Upper Nubia, is subject to the same rule.

III.—ABYSSINIA.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—Abyssinia lies south-east of Egypt. It is limited on the east by the Red Sea, but has no definite frontier to the south and west.

NATURAL FEATURES, CLIMATE, &c.—Abyssinia is a highland region. It consists of lofty table-lands, crossed by mountain-chains, the summits of which are covered with snow.

The upper portion of the Blue Nile is in Abyssinia, as also is the large lake of Tzana, or Dembea, through which that river flows. There are also numerous other streams. The climate is hot in the lower valleys, but temperate and healthy in the upland plains.

POPULATION, &c.—Abyssinia is said to have about 5,000,000 inhabitants, composed of warlike and semi-barbarous races, most of them little above the condition of savage life. The ruling people are the Galla, a race of cruel and savage warriors.

DIVISIONS, &c.—Abyssinia, formerly a powerful kingdom, now comprises several distinct states, each under the rule of a military chief. The three principal are the kingdoms of Tigre, Amhara, and Shoa. The chief towns are—

States.	*Towns.*
TIGRE	Adowa, Antalo.
AMHARA	Gondar.
SHOA	Ankobar.

Gondar was the former capital of Abyssinia, but *Ankobar* is its most important town in the present day. *Massowah* is a port on the Red Sea.

SOUDAN, OR NEGRO-LAND.

I.—Central Africa.

Boundaries, &c.—The plain of Central Africa is bounded on the north by the Sahara, or Desert; on the south by the Kong Mountains and the unknown regions of the interior; on the east it adjoins the region of the Upper Nile; on the west, that in which the rivers Senegal and Gambia originate. This region measures 3000 miles in the direction of east and west, and 1000 in that of north and south.

Natural Features, Climate, &c.—Central Africa is a fertile and watered plain, of vast extent. It includes the basin of Lake Chad, and the chief part of the river Niger.

Lake Chad is a fresh-water lake, and varies greatly in extent with the seasons of rain or drought. It receives the Shary and Yeou, but has no outlet.

The river Niger rises near the western extremity of the Kong Mountains. It is joined in its lower course by the Chadda or Benue river, and afterwards flows, through an opening in the mountain-region, into the Gulf of Guinea.

The climate of Central Africa is amongst the hottest on the globe, but it is free from the unhealthy influences of the coast. The seasons of rain and drought succeed one another with undeviating regularity.

Population, &c.—The inhabitants of this region are principally negroes—intermixed with Arab and Moorish races, who are for the most part in a condition of superior social advancement to the Negro tribes, and are consequently the ruling people. The negroes are generally heathen: the remainder of the population Mohammedan.

The Negro populations of Central Africa are at least partially civilised. They have settled habits of life, cultivate their fields, weave cotton cloth, and dye it with bright colours. Many of their towns are of considerable size, and the courts of the native kings display a rude kind of splendour. The slave-trade has always been the curse of Negro Africa, and the bane of every effort hitherto made for its enlightenment.

The commercial productions are gold-dust, ivory, and ostrich feathers, together with slaves. The merchants engaged in the trade of this region are principally Moors, who form caravans for the purpose of crossing the Desert.

The numerous petty divisions of Central Africa are fluctuating in extent. One of the most important localities is *Timbuctoo*, which stands on the north side of the Niger, a few miles distant from that river. Timbuctoo is a centre

of considerable caravan-traffic: but it consists only of mud-built houses, and is surrounded by a mud wall. *Sego*, on the Niger, is a town of some size. *Kano*, and *Kashna* (or Katsena), further to the east, are also of some size, and the former has considerable commerce.

The countries to the eastward of Lake Chad are scarcely known, excepting by name, to Europeans. The most easterly of them is Darfour, which has occasionally been visited.

II.—Western Coasts.

Extent, Natural Features, &c.—Western Africa extends along the coast of the Atlantic from the border of the Desert southward to the latitude of Cape Frio—a range of between 3000 and 4000 miles. It exhibits a succession of low plains, backed by high grounds at some distance inland.

The rivers of Western Africa, within the tropics, are the Senegal, Gambia, Grande, Niger, Congo, and Coanza. The climate of the whole region is intensely hot, and exceedingly unhealthy to Europeans.

Population, &c.—The native inhabitants are throughout of Negro race, and, as in other parts of Negro Africa, form numerous petty kingdoms, frequently at war with one another, and in a condition of semi-barbarism. A few Europeans are settled at various points on the coast. The productions of Western Africa are palm-oil, bees'-wax, and various gums, together with gold-dust, ivory, and ostrich feathers. Slaves are also still deported from some parts of the coast, chiefly to the south of the equator.

Divisions.—Western Africa is divided, north of the equator, into Senegambia and Guinea: to the south of that line, into Loango, Congo, Angola, and Benguela.

Senegambia is the region watered by the river Senegal and Gambia. Guinea extends along the shores of the Gulf of Guinea, and includes the native kingdoms of Ashantee, chief town *Coomassie;* Dahomey, chief town *Abomey;* and Yarriba, chief town *Abbeokouta.* The ports of Badagry and Lagos are on the eastern part of the Gulf of Guinea.

Liberia, a settlement of negroes, consisting of liberated slaves from the United States, occupies a part of the coast between Senegambia and Guinea, to the westward of Cape Palmas. Its chief town is *Monrovia.*

The British possessions in Western Africa are three in number—the settlements on the Gambia, Sierra Leone, and Cape Coast Castle.

1. The British possessions on the Gambia consist of St Mary Island and the town of Bathurst, at the mouth of the river; Fort James, situated thirty miles above the mouth; and Macarthy Island, 250 miles up the river.

2. Sierra Leone is a peninsula situated about midway between the Gambia river and Cape Palmas. It was originally established (in 1787) as a place of

refuge for liberated negroes, who form the chief part of its population. The capital of the settlement is *Freetown*, on the estuary of the river Rokelle.

3. Cape Coast Castle is the principal of the British settlements on the Gold Coast. It lies a short distance west of the meridian of Greenwich.

The FRENCH settlements in this region consist of Fort St Louis, at the mouth of the river Senegal, and the little island of Goree, near Cape Verde.

The DUTCH possess a few forts on the Gold Coast.

The PORTUGUESE possessions are principally to the south of the equator. They include the provinces of Angola (chief town, *St Paul de Loando*) and Benguela (chief town, *St Philip*).

III.—THE EASTERN COASTS.

CLIMATE, POPULATION, &C.—The coasts of Eastern Africa, from the equator southward to Delagoa Bay, exhibit a general resemblance to those on the opposite side of the continent—that is, low, hot, and moist plains along the coast, backed by high grounds in the interior, with a luxuriant vegetation and an unhealthy climate. The native population is chiefly negro. The commercial productions include gold dust, ivory, gums, bees' wax, ostrich feathers, and slaves.

Two foreign races—the Portuguese and the Arabs—exercise sovereignty over this part of Africa.

The Portuguese possessions reach from the neighbourhood of Delagoa Bay northward to Cape Delgado. They include the territories of Sofala and Mozambique, with the towns of *Mozambique*, *Quillimane*, *Sofala*, and *Inhambane*, situated on the coast, and *Sena* (on the river Zambesi), in the interior.

The coast subject to Arab rule reaches from Cape Delgado to the equator. It includes the towns of *Quiloa*, *Zanzibar*, and *Mombas*, all situated on islands which adjoin the mainland. To the westward of this region is the tract of country which contains the large lakes of Tanganyika, Nyanza, Shirwa, and others.

SOUTHERN AFRICA.

The southern extremity of the African continent comprehends two distinct and extensive provinces under British rule—namely, the Cape Colony and Natal.

I.—THE CAPE COLONY.

SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, &C.—The Cape Colony derives its distinguishing name from the Cape of Good Hope. It includes that part of Africa which is to the south of the Orange River, and which extends thence to the Atlantic and Southern Oceans in the direction of west and south.

The Cape Colony is 200,000 square miles in size, or about four times larger than England.

NATURAL FEATURES, CLIMATE, &c.—The Cape Colony consists of a series of plains, which stretch in the general direction of east and west, and are divided from one another by successive chains of hills. These reach their greatest altitude in the Nieuveld Mountains, the highest points of which are 10,000 feet above the sea. The arid and gravelly plain along the southern base of the Nieuveld chain is called the Great Karroo.

The rivers of the Cape Colony are the Orange (or Gariep), on its northern border, with the Oliphant, Breede, Gauritz, Camtoos, Great Fish, Keiskamma, and Great Kei. The climate is dry, temperate, and healthy—better suited, upon the whole, for pastoral industry than for agricultural operations.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The population numbers nearly 300,000, including both white and coloured races. The whites are partly of British and partly of Dutch descent, for the colony was originally planted by the Dutch. The coloured population includes Hottentots and Caffres, the latter being by much the more numerous.

Sheep and cattle farming is the most important pursuit of the settlers at the Cape. A great quantity of wool is annually exported to England, with skins, hides, and tallow. Wine is also exported on a scale of growing magnitude.

TOWNS, &c.—The Cape Colony forms two great divisions—an eastern and western. The chief place in the westerly division is *Cape Town*, which is the capital of the colony. Cape Town stands on the shore of Table Bay, a little to the northward of the Cape of Good Hope, and in the immediate vicinity of a well-known mountain called, from its flat top, Table Mountain.

The chief place in the easterly division of the colony is *Graham's Town*. The eastern frontier-district bears the name of British Caffraria, the chief place in which is called *King William's Town*.

The Cape Colony is ruled by a governor appointed by the British Crown.

II.—NATAL.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—Natal lies to the north-east of the Cape Colony. Its boundaries are—on the north, the river Tugela; on the south, the river Umzimkulu; on the east, the Indian Ocean; on the west, the Draken-berg or Kathlamba Mountains. The area of the province is 18,000 square miles, or little more than one-third the size of England.

NATURAL FEATURES, CLIMATE, &c.—Natal consists, along the coast, of a low plain, which rises gradually towards the in-

terior. Its longest river is the Tugela, which flows into the Indian Ocean. The climate is warmer than that of the Cape. The sugar-cane and the cotton-plant flourish. But wheat and other productions of temperate latitudes flourish on the higher plains of the interior.

POPULATION, &C.—The great majority of the population are of Caffre race. The whites are chiefly British. Pastoral industry occupies the chief attention of the settlers. Wool, cotton, and ivory, constitute articles of export.

The capital of Natal is the town of *Maritzberg*, in the interior: the chief port is *D'Urban*. The province is under the rule of a lieutenant-governor.

Besides the Cape Colony and Natal, Southern Africa includes the territory occupied by the independent Caffre tribes, and also two recently-founded Dutch States, known as the Orange River Free State, and the Trans-vaal Republic. The two latter are inland tracts, situated to the west of Natal, and beyond the Orange River. Independent Caffraria is between Natal and the eastern frontier of the Cape Colony.

ISLANDS OF AFRICA.

With the exception of Madagascar, the Comoro islands, and Socotra, the African Islands belong to various European nations. Spain, Portugal, Great Britain, and France, are the nations by whom they have been occupied.

1. The islands that belong to SPAIN are—the Canary Islands and Fernando Po.

The Canary Islands are situated in the Atlantic Ocean. The largest of them is Teneriffe, the peak of which reaches 12,236 feet above the sea. The second in size bears the name of Grand Canary. All the islands are fertile, healthy, and productive. Corn, dates, figs, lemons, the vine, sugar, tobacco, cochineal, and barilla, are among their productions. The population numbers 227,000, wholly of Spanish descent. The chief towns are *Santa Cruz* (on Teneriffe) and *Palmas* (on Grand Canary).

Fernando Po is the largest of four islands situated in the Gulf of Guinea. It is fertile, but unhealthy, and has but few settlers on it. The town of *Clarence*, chiefly inhabited by liberated negroes, is its principal place.

2. The islands that belong to PORTUGAL are—Madeira, the Cape Verde Islands, Prince's Island, and St Thomas.

Madeira is a beautiful and fertile island, about twice the size of the Isle of Wight. It rises into high mountains, which reach 6000 feet above the sea. The climate is warm, and is particularly celebrated for its equable temperature and its healthiness. The vine was formerly cultivated over the whole island, but has almost disappeared (owing to disease) within recent years, and the sugar-cane has taken, in some measure, its place. The inhabitants, 107,000 in number, are chiefly Portuguese. The chief town is *Funchal*.

The Cape Verde Islands are situated in the Atlantic, west of Cape Verde. They are less fertile than either Madeira or the Canaries, but produce sugar, oranges, and other fruits. The population is 85,000. *Mindello* (on the island of St Vincent) and *Porto Praya* (on Santiago) are the principal towns.

Prince's Island and St Thomas are both in the Gulf of Guinea. Their population consists chiefly of natives, among whom are a few Portuguese settlers.

Annabon, also in the Gulf of Guinea, is claimed both by Spain and Portugal.

3. The islands belonging to GREAT BRITAIN are St Helena, Ascension, Tristan d'Acunha, Mauritius, Roderigue, the Seychelle group, and the Amirante group.

St Helena is in the South Atlantic, 1200 miles distant from the nearest point of the African mainland. It is about one-third the size of the Isle of Wight, and rises to 2700 feet above the sea. The population is about 7000. *James Town* is the capital.

Ascension is rather smaller than St Helena. It is 800 miles distant from that island, and 1000 miles from Cape Palmas, on the African continent. It is used chiefly as a station for the British cruisers in the adjacent seas.

Tristan d'Acunha is the largest of three islands which lie 2000 miles to the westward of the Cape of Good Hope. It is a barren rock, on which, however, are a few residents.

Mauritius, in the Indian Ocean, is a beautiul and fertile island, 676 square miles in area—about five times larger than the Isle of Wight. It is hilly, the highest elevations reaching nearly 3000 feet. Sugar, coffee, and cotton, are its chief articles of produce. The population numbers 240,000, chiefly of Negro race. Many of the white inhabitants are of French descent. The chief town is *St Louis*.

Roderigue is to the eastward of Mauritius. The Seychelle Islands, and also the Amirantes, are to the northward. All of these are dependencies of Mauritius.

4. The island of Ré-union or Bourbon, situated in the Indian Ocean, belongs to FRANCE. It lies to the south-west of Mauritius, and is rather larger than that island. It contains an active volcano. The population numbers 153,000. Sugar, cloves, and coffee, are produced. The chief town is *St Denis*.

MADAGASCAR, one of the largest islands on the globe, has an area of 200,000 square miles, or four times the size of England. Its interior is mountainous, with a belt of fertile but unhealthy lowland round the coast. The native population is believed to number between four and five millions. They are under a native sovereign, whose capital is the town of Tananarivo, in the centre of the island.

The COMORO ISLANDS are situated in the Mozambique Channel. They are four in number, and form a native kingdom. One of them, however, Mayotta, has been recently made the seat of a French settlement.

SOCOTRA is a large island to the east of Cape Guardafui. Its inhabitants are principally Arabs, under the dominion of the Sultan of Muscat.

NORTH AMERICA.

AMERICA, or the New World, comprehends two great divisions—North and South. North America is the larger of the two. North and South America are united by the Isthmus of Panama.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—North America is bounded on the north by the Arctic Ocean; on the east by the Atlantic Ocean; on the west by the Pacific Ocean. Towards the south it narrows, below the parallel of 30°, into the region of the Mexican Isthmus, and terminates in the Isthmus of Panama. Its area is about 8,600,000 square miles.

SEAS, GULFS, &c.—The eastern coasts of North America are very irregular in outline. They include the following, all of which belong to the Atlantic Ocean :—

Baffin Bay.	Gulf of St Lawrence.	Gulf of Mexico.
Hudson Bay.	Bay of Fundy.	Carribean Sea.

The chief inlet on the west side of North America is the Gulf of California.
The chief inlet on the north coast is the Gulf of Boothia.

STRAITS.—The following are the principal :—

Hudson Strait, which connects Hudson Bay with the Atlantic Ocean.
Davis Strait, which connects Baffin Bay with the Atlantic Ocean.
Barrow Strait, which connects Baffin Bay (by way of Lancaster and Melville Sounds) with the Arctic Ocean.
Melville Sound, which is a westwardly extension of Barrow Strait.
Behring Strait, which connects the Arctic and Pacific Oceans, dividing the continents of North America and Asia.

CAPES.—The principal are :—

On the East Coasts.

Cape Farewell (Greenland).	Cape Cod (United States).
Cape Charles (Labrador).	Cape Hatteras (United States).
Cape Race (Newfoundland).	Cape Sable (Florida).
Cape Breton (C. Breton I.).	Cape Catoche (Yucatan).
Cape Sable (Nova Scotia).	Cape Gracias-à-Dios (Cent. America).

On the North.	*On the West.*
Cape Barrow (Russian territory).	Cape Prince of Wales (Russian territory).
Cape Bathurst (British territory).	Cape St Lucas (California).

Cape Charles is the most eastwardly point of North America, and Cape Prince of Wales the most westwardly point. The extremity of Boothia peninsula forms the most northerly point of the mainland.

PENINSULAS.—The four following are on the east side of North America—Labrador, Nova Scotia, Florida, and Yucatan.

The two following are on the west side—Lower California and Alashka.

Melville Peninsula, and Boothia peninsula, are on the north coast.

The Isthmus of Panama, which connects North and South America, is only 28 miles across in its narrowest part.

ISLANDS.—The principal are :—

On the Atlantic side, to the East of the Mainland.

The West Indies.	Newfoundland.	Prince Edward Island.
Bermuda Islands.	Cape Breton Island.	Anticosti.

In the North.

Greenland, and the various islands of the Arctic Archipelago, including Banks Land, King William Land, the Parry Islands, &c.

On the West.

Vancouver Island.	Queen Charlotte Island.	Sitka Archipelago.

MOUNTAINS AND TABLE-LANDS.—The highlands of the New World stretch in the general direction of north and south. North America has two great mountain-systems—the Rocky Mountains and the Alleghany Mountains ; the former towards the western side of the continent, the latter near its eastern shores. The highest points of the Alleghany Mountains scarcely exceed 6000 feet : the Rocky Mountains reach 16,000 feet. Between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific is a succession of highland regions, with elevated mountain groups on the immediate borders of the ocean. One portion of this region consists of the plateau of Utah, a tract enclosed by mountain-chains on every side.

The narrower portion of the New World, between the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea upon one side, and the Pacific on the other, consists of table-lands, bordered by low plains on either side. The table-lands of Mexico reach 9000 feet above the sea.

LOWLANDS.—The interior of North America, from the Gulf of Mexico northwards to the Arctic Ocean, is a vast lowland plain. This plain includes the region of the *prairies*, covered with a luxuriant growth of long grass, and diversified at intervals by tracts of forests. The river Mississippi and its tributaries water the southwardly division of the great plain.

RIVERS.—On the east side of North America are—

Flowing into Gulf of Mexico.

Mississippi.....through United States.
Grande del Norte ..... between United States and Mexico.

Into Gulf of St Lawrence.

St Lawrence...through Canada.

Into Hudson Bay.

Nelson.....through Brit. America.
Churchill, or Missinippi through Do. do.

Into Atlantic Ocean.

Connecticut...through United States.
Hudson..... Do.
Delaware..... Do.
Susquehanna ..... Do.
Potomac ..... Do.
James..... Do.
Roanoke ..... Do.
Savannah ..... Do.
Alatamaha ..... Do.

The chief rivers on the western side of North America are—

Flowing into the Pacific Ocean.

Fraser .....through British Columbia.
Columbia, or Oregon ..... do. and United States.
Sacramento ..... United States.

Flowing into Gulf of California.

Colorado .....through United States.

The chief rivers on the Arctic coast of North America are—

Mackenzie .....through Hudson Bay Territory.
Coppermine ..... Do.
Back ..... Do.

The Mississippi is the longest river on the globe, its length by the Missouri arm being 4000 miles. The Missouri rises in the Rocky Mountains, and joins the Mississippi about midway between the source of that stream and its outlet in the Gulf of Mexico.

LAKES.—The chief lakes of North America are—

Superior..... United States and Canada.
Michigan .....United States.
Huron ..... United States and Canada.
Erie..... Do. do.
Ontario..... Do. do.
Champlain.....United States.

Winnipeg ..... Hudson Bay Territory.
Athabasca ..... Do. do.
Great Slave Lake. Do. do.
Great Bear Lake .. Do. do.
Great Salt Lake ...United States.
Nicaragua .....Central America.
Leon, or Managua Do. do.

Lake Superior is the largest fresh-water lake on the globe.

Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario, are united by connecting channels, and the river St Lawrence, which flows out of Lake Ontario, carries their surplus waters to the sea. Between Ontario and Erie are the Falls of Niagara, the most stupendous cataract on the globe.

CLIMATE AND NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.—The countries of the New World are somewhat colder, in correspondent latitudes, than those of the Old World, and they have generally a greater quantity of rain. The eastern coasts of North America, and also its interior plains, are liable to great extremes of heat and cold at opposite seasons, while its western shores have a more equable temperature. The West Indies, the coasts of Central America, the low plain at the foot of the Mexican plateau, and the southernmost portions of the United States, are the hottest regions of North America. The coldest parts are those that stretch from Hudson Bay towards the Arctic Ocean.

METALS AND MINERALS.—The mineralogy of America is rich and varied. The country lying to the west of the Rocky Mountains is one of the chief gold-producing regions of the world. California, within the United States, and British Columbia, further to the northward, are the great localities of auriferous deposit. Mexico is also a region of great mineral wealth, and its mines supplied at a former period considerable amounts of gold and silver.

The countries on the eastern side of North America, especially in the neighbourhood of the Alleghany Mountains and the St Lawrence basin, are rich in the more useful productions of the mineral kingdom—iron and other metals, with coal. The coal-fields of the United States are of vast extent and great value. Coal also occurs in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Cape Breton Island.

VEGETATION.—The native vegetation of the New World differs from that of the eastern hemisphere. Many of the plants and trees that are common in the Old World are not found upon the opposite side of the Atlantic Ocean; while, on the other hand, the productions of the American soil are in numerous instances peculiar to that part of the globe.

Among food-plants native to the American continent are maize, the potato, and the manioc (or cassava). The first named is the only one of the cereals that is indigenous to the American soil. The root of the manioc or cassava sup-

plies the chief article of nutriment to the Indian population of tropical America. The potato has been carried from the temperate regions of the western world over every portion of the civilised globe; as also has tobacco, another of the plants native to the American soil. Plants of the cactus tribe are among the native productions of North America, as also are the azalia, magnolia, and the aloe. The forests of the New World are of vast extent.

ZOOLOGY.—Neither the horse, the ass, the common ox and sheep, the hog, the camel, nor the elephant, are native to the New World. Among carnivorous quadrupeds, the lion, tiger, leopard, and hyena, are unknown in the American wilderness. The puma and the jaguar—natives of tropical America—are the most formidable of its carnivora, but are inferior in strength and ferocity to the lion and tiger of the Old World. In the higher latitudes of North America there are numerous wolves, foxes, and bears, with the Canadian lynx, and the moose-deer or elk supplies a parallel to the rein-deer of northern Europe.

The bison, or American buffalo, is one of the most characteristic animals native to the American prairie, but it has never been domesticated. The musk-ox, and other members of the deer kind, also occur. The beaver, and numerous fur-bearing animals, abound in the colder latitudes of the American continent.

The birds of America, and also the reptiles, insects, and other members of the animal world, are in nearly all cases different from those of other continents. The true humming-birds are peculiar to America. The rattle-snake and the boa-constrictor are also American.

The domestic cattle of the Old World are now reared in the plains of the western continent. The horse, ox, and sheep, all originally introduced by Europeans, abound throughout its vast extent.

The *population* of North America numbers about 40,000,000, three-fourth of them the descendants of European colonists. The remaining fourth consists of negroes, native Indians, and mixed races.

The native man of America is the red (or copper-coloured) Indian—one of the five leading varieties into which the family of mankind is commonly divided. The numbers of the American Indian race have vastly diminished since the settlement of Europeans in the New World.

COUNTRIES OF NORTH AMERICA.

British America.

Boundaries, &c.—The British territory in North America is bounded on the north by the Arctic Ocean; on the south by the United States; on the east by the Atlantic; on the west by the Pacific Ocean and Russian America. This vast area comprehends 3,000,000 square miles.

Portions of this immense region have been formed into colonies, each under a governor appointed by the Crown; the remainder is under the jurisdiction of the Hudson Bay Company. The names of the colonies are—

1. Canada.
2. New Brunswick.
3. Nova Scotia (with Cape Breton Island).
4. Prince Edward Island.
5. Newfoundland.
6. British Columbia (with Vancouver Island).

The first five of these are situated either within the basin of the St Lawrence, or beside the gulf of that name. British Columbia and Vancouver Island are to the west of the Rocky Mountains, and border on the Pacific. Canada alone is three times larger than the whole group of the British Islands.

Natural Features, Climate, &c.—The river St Lawrence and the magnificent chain of lakes from which it issues are the chief natural features of Canada, which is the largest and most important of the British colonies in this part of the world. The climate, though perfectly healthy, is severe within the eastern portion of the province, but Upper (or Western) Canada enjoys a more genial temperature. Every part of Canada is fertile. The climate and soil of the neighbouring provinces do not differ in any material degree from that of Canada.

The vast forests of pine which cover large portions of the St Lawrence valley form its chief natural wealth. The mineral resources are also considerable. Iron, lead, copper, and other metals, are abundant in Canada: coal occurs in New Brunswick, and also in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island.

Population and Industry.—Canada has above 2,500,000 inhabitants: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland, together, about three-quarters of a million. The population of Canada undergoes rapid increase by immigration from Great Britain and Ireland. In Lower Canada the majority of the inhabitants are of French origin, Canada having been originally a French settlement.

The labours of the field and the forest are the prime objects of the Canadian settler's industry. Wheat, timber, and other forest-produce (as pot and pearl-ash), are exported. The extensive fisheries pursued in the neighbourhood of Newfoundland furnish the chief employment of its people.

TOWNS, &C.—The chief towns in the provinces that are within the region of the St Lawrence are—

CANADA	LOWER	Quebec, Montreal.
	UPPER	Ottawa, Toronto, Kingston.
NEW BRUNSWICK		Fredericton, St John.
NOVA SCOTIA (with C. BRETON ISLAND)		Halifax, Sydney.
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND		Charlotte Town.
NEWFOUNDLAND		St John's.

The rising city of *Ottawa*, on the river of that name, is designed as the future capital of Canada, but *Quebec*, on the St Lawrence, is the present seat of Government. *Montreal*, also on the St Lawrence, below Quebec, has a large share of commercial importance. Both *Toronto* and *Kingston* are on the shore of Lake Ontario.

BRITISH COLUMBIA was formed into a colony so recently as 1858, owing to the discovery of rich gold-fields within the valley of the Fraser river, which flows from the Rocky Mountains into the Pacific Ocean. It possesses a healthy climate and a fertile soil, and the population is rapidly increasing. The town of *New Westminster*, on the river Fraser, is intended as the capital; but Victoria, on Vancouver Island, has hitherto served as the temporary seat of government.

VANCOUVER ISLAND is divided from the American continent by the Gulf of Georgia. It was made the seat of a British settlement in 1849, and is at present attached to British Columbia. Its capital is the town of *Victoria*. Vancouver Island furnishes good coal.

The remainder of British North America is known by the name of the HUDSON BAY TERRITORY—a vast region, stretching from the borders of Canada to the Rocky Mountains and the Arctic Ocean. Only the southwardly portions of this region are suited for colonisation, owing to the increasing severity of the climate to the northward. The furs of various animals which have their home in the Arctic wilderness have hitherto formed the chief object of resort thither, but portions of it abound in mineral deposits of value.

The most fertile portions of this territory are in the neighbourhood of Lake Winnipeg and within the valley of the Saskatchewan river. The tract adjoining Lake Winnipeg is known as the Red River Settlement. *Fort York*, on the banks of Hayes river, which flows into Hudson Bay, is the principal station of the Hudson Bay Company.

The easternmost part of British North America is the coast of Labrador.

The western coasts of GREENLAND, from Cape Farewell northward to beyond the parallel of 73°, belong to Denmark. Among the Danish settlements in this region is the town of Uppernavik, in latitude 72° 50′.

The extreme north-west portion of the North American continent belongs to Russia.

The RUSSIAN TERRITORY in America is frequented for the sake

of the fur-trade, as well as for the fisheries carried on there. The interior is little known. The coasts abound in good harbours. *New Archangel*, on the group of the Sitka Islands, and *Michaelovski*, on Norton Sound, are the principal towns.

United States.

Boundaries, &c.—The United States of North America are bounded on the north by British America, on the south by the Gulf of Mexico and the states of the Mexican Confederation, on the east by the Atlantic, and on the west by the Pacific Ocean. This vast territory stretches entirely across the continent, from east to west, and includes above 3,000,000 square miles.

Natural Features.—The most important among the great natural features of the United States are—the Rocky Mountains, the Alleghany Mountains, the valley of the Mississippi, and the great lakes that form part of the basin of the river St Lawrence.

The whole of the Alleghany system is within the United States. The vast region between the Alleghanies and the Rocky Mountains is watered by the Mississippi and its tributaries, and includes the chief part of the prairies.

The most important river of the United States is the Mississippi, which is joined by the Missouri, the Ohio, Arkansas, Red River, and numerous other navigable tributaries. The Mississippi forms the great highway of commerce for the Western States. Among the rivers that flow from the Alleghany Mountains into the Atlantic, the most important are the Hudson, Delaware, Susquehanna, and Potomac.

Lake Michigan is wholly within the United States. The other great lakes of the St Lawrence basin (Superior, Huron, Erie, and Ontario) are on the border-line between the United States and the British possessions.

The rivers Colorado, Sacramento, and the lower portion of the Columbia, are to the west of the Rocky Mountains.

Climate and Productions.—The southern portions of the United States—towards the Gulf of Mexico—are hot; the middle and northerly portions temperate and healthy. The Atlantic coasts are characterised by great extremes of summer and winter temperature.

The natural resources of this vast territory are very great. The gold-fields of California are among the richest in the

world; on the Atlantic side, the States of Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia include a vast coal-field, together with abundance of iron and other valuable ores.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The population exceeds 23,000,000. Five-sixths of the number are of European (and chiefly British) descent. The English language is hence the prevailing tongue throughout the Union. Above three and a half millions are negroes, most of them slaves.

The culture of the soil is the predominant branch of industrial pursuit. In the Southern and South-western States, cotton, rice, tobacco, and sugar—in the Middle and Northern States, maize, wheat, and other grains—are the principal articles of produce. The cotton crop is of immense value, and its export to Britain forms the most important branch of the foreign commerce of the Union. Tobacco, sugar, rice, wheat, and maize, are also largely exported. Manufactures flourish chiefly in the North-eastern States, but a vast amount of manufactured produce is imported.

DIVISIONS, TOWNS, &c.—The United States of North America are thirty-two in number, each of them constituting a sovereign state, and the whole forming a federal republic. Besides the States, there are eight Territories, not yet sufficiently populated for admission into the Union.

The older States of the Union, which stretch along the Atlantic coast, are divided into North-eastern, Middle, and Southern. The States of later formation, for the most part within the Mississippi valley, are distinguished as Western States. One State, California, is beyond the Rocky Mountains, on the coast of the Pacific.

The North-eastern (or New England) States, with their chief towns, are—

States.	*Towns.*
MAINE	Augusta, Portland.
NEW HAMPSHIRE	Concord, Portsmouth.
VERMONT	Montpelier, Burlington.
MASSACHUSETTS	Boston, Lowell, Springfield.
RHODE ISLAND	Providence, Newport.
CONNECTICUT	Newhaven, Hartford.

The Middle States are—

States.	*Towns.*
NEW YORK	Albany, New York, Troy, Buffalo.
NEW JERSEY	Trenton, Newark.
PENNSYLVANIA	Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Pittsburg.
DELAWARE	Dover, Wilmington.
MARYLAND	Annapolis, Baltimore.
District of COLUMBIA	Washington.

The Southern States are—

States.	*Towns.*
VIRGINIA	Richmond.
NORTH CAROLINA	Raleigh, Wilmington.
SOUTH CAROLINA	Columbia, Charleston.
GEORGIA	Milledgeville, Savannah.
FLORIDA	Tallahassee, St Augustine.

The North-western States are—

States.	*Towns.*	*States.*	*Towns.*
MINNESOTA	St Paul.	ILLINOIS	Springfield, Chicago.
WISCONSIN	Madison, Milwaukie.	MICHIGAN	Lansing, Detroit.
IOWA	Iowa City, Burlington.	OHIO	Columbus, Cincinnati.
MISSOURI	Jefferson City, St Louis.	KENTUCKY	Frankfort, Louisville.
INDIANA	Indianopolis.		

The South-western States are—

States.	*Towns.*	*States.*	*Towns.*
TENNESSEE	Nashville.	LOUISIANA	Baton Rouge, New Orleans.
ALABAMA	Montgomery, Mobile.	ARKANSAS	Little Rock.
MISSISSIPPI	Jackson, Columbus.	TEXAS	Austin, Galveston.

On the coast of the Pacific is—

	Towns.
CALIFORNIA	Benicia, San Francisco.

Washington, on the river Potomac, is the political capital of the United States, but is not otherwise important. The largest city, and the great emporium of the foreign commerce of the Union, is *New York*, at the mouth of the river Hudson. New York has nearly three-quarters of a million inhabitants, and is the largest city in the New World.

Among the other principal cities, the most considerable are *Philadelphia*, *Boston*, *Baltimore*, *Charleston*, *New Orleans*, *St Louis*, *Cincinnati*, *Chicago*, and *San Francisco*. Philadelphia, situated at the junction of the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers, is the second city of the Union in size and population. Boston is the largest city of the New England States, and is a great seat of manufacturing and commercial industry. New Orleans is on the delta of the Mississippi, and is the great outport for the agricultural produce of its immense valley. St Louis (on the Mississippi), Cincinnati (on the Ohio), and Chicago (at the head of Lake Michigan), are the largest inland cities of the Union.

The eight Territories belonging to the United States are—

OREGON—Salem.	UTAH—Salt Lake City.
WASHINGTON—Olympia.	NEW MEXICO—Santa Fé.
NEBRASKA.	KANSAS.
DACOTAH.	ARIZONA.

GOVERNMENT, &c.—The United States form a federal republic. The general government is vested in a President, elected every four years. The legislature consists of an elective Congress, consisting of a Senate and a Chamber of Representatives. There is no established form of worship, but each of the various Christian Churches has its followers. Slavery is established in fifteen of the States.

MEXICO.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—Mexico is bounded on the north by the United States, on the west and south by the Pacific, and on the east by the Mexican Gulf.

NATURAL FEATURES, CLIMATE, &c.—Mexico consists of a high plateau, bordered by a strip of lowland upon either side. From the low coast-plain, the country rises in successive terraces towards the interior, reaching in the more elevated portions from 7000 to 9000 feet above the sea. There are no rivers of any considerable magnitude.

The climate of Mexico is hot, moist, and unhealthy, within the low plains of the coast, but temperate and healthy in the elevated districts of the interior. The natural productions, both mineral and vegetable, are exceedingly valuable. There are numerous gold and silver mines—formerly worked to great advantage. Vanilla, cocoa, jalapa, and the cochineal-plant (a species of cactus), are native to Mexico. Tobacco, coffee, indigo, and the sugar-cane, flourish.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The population numbers about 7,500,000, the great majority either Indians or people of mixed Indian and Spanish race—*mestizoes*, as they are called. The whites are of Spanish descent. Every branch of industry is at the lowest ebb, and Mexico has exhibited, during many years past, every possible symptom of neglect, decay, and social disorganisation. Some cochineal, and a small amount of the precious metals, are still exported.

DIVISIONS, &c.—Mexico is nominally a confederation of twenty-one States, with some appended Territories.

Among the towns (few of which are of any other than local importance), the principal are *Mexico*, the capital,—*Vera Cruz*, *Tampico*, *Acapulco*, and *Mazatlan*, the principal seaports. Vera Cruz and Tampico are on the shore of the Gulf of Mexico: Acapulco and Mazatlan, on the side of the Pacific.

YUCATAN, the easternmost of the Mexican provinces, has upon various occasions assumed the rank of an independent State. It contains the towns of Merida and Campeachy, the former of which is the capital.

GOVERNMENT, &c.—Mexico, nominally a federal republic, has during a long period been in reality a mere military despotism, with frequent intervals of anarchy. The Roman Catholic religion is uniformly followed.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—The name of Central America is given to the narrow tract of country which extends from Mexico to

the Isthmus of Panama. This region is bounded by the waters of the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean on either side. The Bay of Honduras (which is an arm of the Caribbean Sea) washes part of the coast.

NATURAL FEATURES, &c.—Central America consists of interior plateaus, with low plains adjoining the coast. The plateaus are inferior in height to those of Mexico, but they are bordered on the west by high mountains. Part of the low plain along the Atlantic is known as the Mosquito Coast.

The most important river is the San Juan, which flows from the large lake of Nicaragua into the Caribbean Sea. Steam-vessels navigate this river and lake, and thus reach within a short distance of the Pacific.

The climate and natural productions of Central America bear a general resemblance to those of Mexico. The coasts are hot and unhealthy, while the elevated interior is comparatively temperate.

POPULATION, TOWNS, &c.—Five distinct States are included within Central America. Their names are—Guatemala, Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica. The first named is the largest amongst them. The total population is less than a million and a half. Three-fourths of the people are either Indians or Mestizoes. The whites are nearly all of Spanish descent.

The industry of Central America is generally in a backward condition; but indigo, cochineal, and coffee, with small quantities of sugar, hides, Nicaragua wood, mahogany, balsam, and sarsaparilla, are exported.

The chief towns are as follow :—

States.	*Towns.*	*States.*	*Towns.*
GUATEMALA.....	New Guatemala, Old Guatemala, Istapa.	HONDURAS...	Comayagua, Truxillo.
SALVADOR.....	Salvador.	NICARAGUA..	Leon, Granada, Greytown.
		COSTA RICA..	San José.

The province of BRITISH HONDURAS, or BELIZE, which is geographically included within Central America, belongs to Great Britain, and is attached to the government of Jamaica. Its chief produce is mahogany. It contains the town of *Belize*, at the mouth of a river of the same name.

THE WEST INDIES.

SITUATION, &c.—The West Indies are a vast insular region, washed by the waters of the Atlantic Ocean, the Caribbean Sea, and the Gulf of Mexico.

Four of the islands of the West Indies are of much larger size than the others. These are—Cuba, Hayti, Jamaica, and Porto Rico. The smaller islands are distinguished as the Windward Islands, the Leeward Islands, and the Bahama chain.

NATURAL FEATURES, CLIMATE, &c.—All the islands of the West Indies are more or less mountainous, with the exception of the Bahamas and the island of Barbadoes.

The climate of the West Indies is thoroughly tropical. The dry and rainy seasons follow one another with unfailing regularity, and the quantity of rain that falls within the latter period is very great.

The most valuable productions are those that belong to the vegetable world. Manioc, arum (or taro), sweet potato, arrow-root, maize, pine-apple, pimento, ginger, cocoa, vanilla, the tamarind, guava, cocoa-nut palm, indigo, and tobacco, are indigenous to the soil. The sugar-cane, coffee, cocoa, plantain, and bread-fruit, all flourish.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—The population of the West Indies amounts, in the total, to nearly three millions. Cuba alone has about one million, Hayti about three-quarters of a million, and Jamaica about 400,000. Two-thirds of the total population are negroes, the remaining third whites and mulattoes, the latter of mixed European and negro blood.

The chief articles of commercial produce are sugar, rum, molasses, and coffee—the three first derived from the sugar-cane, which is cultivated to an immense extent in Cuba, and in greater or less degree throughout the archipelago. Cocoa, tobacco, cotton, and spices, chiefly ginger and pimento, are supplied to a less amount.

ISLANDS.—With the exception of Hayti, which forms two independent states, and of Margarita, which belongs to the republic of Venezuela, the West Indian islands all belong to various nations of Europe.

SPAIN possesses the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico.

Cuba has an area of 43,000 square miles—only one-seventh part less than England. The capital is *Havannah*, the largest city in the West Indies. The chief town of Porto Rico is *San Juan*.

GREAT BRITAIN possesses, of the larger islands, Jamaica; and of the smaller islands, Trinidad, Tobago, Barbadoes, Grenada, St Vincent, St Lucia, Dominica, Antigua, Barbuda, Montserrat, Nevis, St Christopher, three of the Virgin Islands, and the Bahamas.

Jamaica is 4300 square miles in area, or four-fifths the size of Yorkshire. Its nominal capital is *Spanish Town*, but *Kingston* is the chief seat of commerce.

The islands that extend from Trinidad to St Lucia are included under the name of the Windward Islands. Their names, and chief towns, are—

Islands.	*Towns.*	*Islands.*	*Towns.*
TRINIDAD	Port of Spain.	GRENADA	St George.
TOBAGO.	Scarborough.	ST VINCENT	Kingstown.
BARBADOES	Bridgetown.	ST LUCIA	Castries.

Barbadoes is the most productive island of the Windward chain.

The Leeward Islands are those that extend from Dominica to the group of the Virgin Islands, namely:—

Islands.	*Towns.*	*Islands.*	*Towns.*
DOMINICA	Roseau.	ST CHRISTOPHER	Basse-terre.
ANTIGUA	St John.	VIRGIN ISLANDS:—	
BARBUDA.		Tortola	Road Town.
MONTSERRAT	Plymouth.	Virgin-gorda.	
NEVIS	Charlestown.	Anegada.	

Antigua is the most important island of the Leeward chain.

The chief town of the Bahama Islands is *Nassau*, on the island of New Providence.

FRANCE possesses Martinique, Guadaloupe and its dependencies, and part of the island of St Martin.

The capital of Martinique is *Port Royal*, but St Pierre is of larger size. *Basse-terre* is the capital of Guadaloupe. The islands of Maria-galante and Desirade are dependencies of Gaudaloupe.

HOLLAND possesses part of St Martin, with the islands of Saba, St Eustatius, Curaçao, Oruba, and Buen Ayre—the three last named lying near the coast of South America.

The chief town of Curaçao (the largest of the Dutch islands) is *Wallenstadt.*

DENMARK possesses the islands of Santa Cruz, St John, and St Thomas—all three belonging to the group of the Virgin Islands. Santa Cruz is the largest. Its chief town is *Christianstadt.*

SWEDEN possesses the island of St Bartholomew.

HAYTI (or San Domingo) has an area of 30,000 square miles—nearly as great as that of Ireland; but its population is less than 700,000. It forms two distinct negro (or rather mulatto) states—one of them, the Republic of Hayti, the other the Dominican Republic. The former of these embraces the western half of the island, and has *Port-au-Prince* for its capital. The Dominican Republic, which includes the eastern half, has for its capital the town of *San Domingo.*

The BERMUDA ISLANDS, situated in the middle of the Atlantic, 600 miles east of the American continent, belong to Britain. They produce the finest arrow-root. Their chief town is *Hamilton.*

SOUTH AMERICA.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—South America is joined to North America by the Isthmus of Panama.

The boundaries of South America are—on the north, the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean; on the east, the Atlantic Ocean; on the west, the Pacific Ocean. To the south, it gradually decreases in breadth, and terminates in Cape Horn. Its area is 7,000,000 square miles.

GULFS, &c.—The principal inlets of the South American coast are—

On the North.	*On the West.*	*On the South.*
Gulf of Darien.	Gulf of Panama.	Strait of Magellan.
Gulf of Maracaybo.	Gulf of Guayaquil.	
Gulf of Paria.		

CAPES.—The principal are—

On the North Coast.	*On the East Coast.*	*On the South.*
Cape Gallinas.	Cape St Roque.	Cape Horn.
On the West Coast.	Cape Branco.	Cape Froward.
Cape Parina.	Cape Frio.	

Cape Gallinas is the most northerly point of the continent, Cape Branco the most easterly, and Cape Parina the most westwardly. Cape Froward is the most southwardly point of the mainland, but Cape Horn, which is the southernmost of an extensive group of islands, is a more famous point.

ISLANDS.—These are—

On the North.	*On the East.*
Margarita, Curaçao, and others, belonging to the West Indies.	Falkland Islands.
	Georgia Island.
On the South.	*On the West.*
Tierra del Fuego.	Patagonian Archipelago, Chiloe Island, Juan Fernandez, and the Galapagos Islands.

Tierra del Fuego is divided from the mainland by the Strait of Magellan. It comprehends a great number of cold, barren, and dreary islands.

MOUNTAINS AND TABLE-LANDS.—South America has three mountain systems—

1. The Andes, which are the highest mountains in the New World.
2. The Mountains of Guiana.
3. The Mountains of Brazil.

The Andes stretch along the whole western side of South America. Their highest summit—Aconcagua—on the borders of Chili and La Plata, nearly reaches 24,000 feet, and several others are above 20,000 feet. They rise throughout above the line of perpetual snow. Many of the mountains are active volcanoes, and earthquakes frequently occur in the countries through which they extend.

The table-lands of South America are principally within the region traversed by the Andes. The highest is the plateau of Titicaca (within Peru and Bolivia), which contains the large lake of Titicaca, at an elevation of nearly 13,000 feet. The plateau of Quito, under the equator, reaches 9000 feet.

LOWLAND-PLAINS.—These stretch through the interior of the continent, and separate the Andes from the mountain-systems of Guiana and Brazil. They embrace three great divisions—

1. The *llanos*, or grassy plains of the Orinoco valley.
2. The *selvas*, or forest plains of the Amazon valley.
3. The *pampas*, or plains of the La Plata region.

The llanos (or savannahs) are vast meadows, like the prairies of North America. The selvas are regions covered with a dense growth of natural forest. The pampas, according to the changes of the season, are alternately covered with herbage, or with thistles of gigantic size.

RIVERS.—The chief rivers of South America, named in succession from the northward, are as follow:—

Magdalena.	Corentyn.	La Plata { Uruguay. Parana. Paraguay.
Orinoco.	Surinam.	
Essequibo.	Maroni.	
Demerara.	Amazon.	Colorado.
Berbice.	San Francisco.	Negro.

The river Magdalena flows into the Caribbean Sea, which is a gulf of the Atlantic. All the others terminate directly in the Atlantic Ocean.

The Amazon, the Orinoco, and the Rio de la Plata, are superior in magnitude to any other rivers of South America. The Amazon is 3900 miles long; it thus nearly rivals the Mississippi in length of channel, and greatly exceeds any of the rivers of the Old World. The Rio de la Plata is an immense estuary, formed by the junction of the rivers Parana and Uruguay.

LAKES.—These are few in number. The largest is Lake Titicaca.

CLIMATE AND NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.—Two-thirds of South America fall within the torrid zone. Its climate is hence,

upon the whole, warmer than that of North America. But towards the south it becomes gradually more temperate, and the extreme south is cold. The quantity of rain that falls within its tropical regions is very great, exceeding, in some localities (as in Guiana and parts of Brazil), the rain-fall of any other part of the globe.

METALS AND MINERALS.—South America is rich in the precious metals. The whole region traversed by the Andes contains mines of gold and silver, besides abundant ores of copper, iron, lead, and other valuable metals. Chili has copper mines of great value, and also coal-fields. Brazil furnishes, besides gold, diamonds and other precious stones.

VEGETATION.—Maize, cassava (or manioc), cocoa, tobacco, and the potato, are the characteristic food-plants of South America. The various species of cinchona (or Peruvian bark), valued for their medicinal properties, are native to its western coasts. The caoutchouc (or India-rubber) tree, mahogany, and log-wood, are native to Brazil. The maté-shrub of Paraguay (or yerba-maté) serves in South America a purpose similar to the tea-plant of the Old World.

ZOOLOGY.—The puma and the jaguar (or ounce), both of them native also to the wooded regions of Mexico and Central America, are the most formidable of the South American carnivora. The llama is peculiar to South America. The proper llama, and also the various species known as the alpaca, vicuna, and guanaco, all belong to the region of the higher Andes. The llama is used as a beast of burden.

The tapir, sloth, ant-eater, and armadillo, are natives of South America. Monkeys are exceedingly numerous in the forests of Brazil, but are of different species from the like animals in the eastern half of the globe. The opossums, which abound in the forests of South America, and one variety of which is common in the northern half of the New World, are found nowhere else but in Australia.

Both reptile and insect life are favoured by the combined heat and moisture—with its consequent luxuriance of vegetation—of tropical South America. The boa-constrictor is found in the swampy plains, and the alligator abounds in most of its rivers.

INHABITANTS.—The total population of South America does not exceed 20,000,000. About a third of the whole are of European race, and almost exclusively of Spanish and Portuguese origin. With the exception of Brazil, which was

colonised by Portugal, nearly all South America was formerly under Spanish rule.

The native Indian race perhaps numbers about 5,000,000. The negro race (chiefly found in Brazil) includes between three and four millions. Mixed races, or mestizoes—principally of European and Indian blood—make up the remainder.

COUNTRIES OF SOUTH AMERICA.

South America is divided into the following countries :—

Brazil.	Ecuador.	La Plata.
Guiana.	Peru.	Paraguay.
Venezuela.	Bolivia.	Uruguay.
New Granada.	Chili.	Patagonia.

With the exception of Brazil, which is an empire ; of Guiana, which is divided between the possession of three European nations ; and of Patagonia, which is an uncivilised tract of country, all the South American states are nominal republics. But in most instances the government is really a military despotism. The Roman Catholic religion prevails throughout South America.

BRAZIL.

Boundaries, &c.—Brazil is the largest country of South America. It is bounded on the north by Venezuela and Guiana ; on the north-east and east by the Atlantic Ocean ; on the south and south-west by Uruguay, La Plata, and Paraguay; on the west by Peru and Bolivia. Its area exceeds 3,000,000 square miles.

Natural Features, Climate, &c.—The great feature of Brazil consists in its vast plains, watered by some of the largest rivers in the world. Few of its mountains exceed 3000 feet, but the interior is for the most part a moderately elevated and undulating region.

The chief rivers are the Amazon, with its numerous tributaries, the San Francisco, and the upper portions of the Parana and Paraguay. The longest among the tributaries of the Amazon is the Madera river.

The climate is strictly tropical, and the soil, under the combined influences of heat and moisture, displays the most luxuriant fertility. Besides its rich forests, Brazil possesses gold and diamonds, with other precious stones.

Population and Industry.—Brazil has 7,500,000 inhabi-

tants, of whom fewer than one-sixth are whites. More than half the total number are of negro race—the great bulk of them slaves. The remainder include Indians and mixed races. The whites are of Portuguese descent, and the Portuguese language is hence spoken.

The industry of Brazil is agricultural. Coffee, sugar, and cotton, are its staples of commercial produce; with smaller quantities of rice, cocoa, maize, and tobacco. The cassava-bread, made from the root of the manioc, is the chief food of the native Indian population. The trade with Britain is of high value.

TOWNS.—Brazil includes twenty provinces. All its larger towns are situated on or near the coast.

The capital is *Rio Janeiro*, seated on a bay of the Atlantic, which forms a magnificent harbour. It has half a million inhabitants, and is the largest city of South America. The second city in size and commercial importance is *Bahia*, to the northward of Rio; and the third place in these regards is *Pernambuco*, further north.

The other principal towns are *Para* (at the mouth of the Rio de Para); *San Paulo* (to the south-west of Rio); and *San Pedro*, further to the south.

GUIANA.

BOUNDARIES, &C.—Guiana is the north-east portion of South America. It is bounded on the north and north-east by the Atlantic Ocean, on the south by Brazil, on the west by Brazil and Venezuela.

NATURAL FEATURES, &C.—The coast-district of Guiana is a low and fertile plain, behind which the country rises towards the interior. The rivers all flow northwardly, into the Atlantic. The principal are—the Essequibo, Demerara, Berbice, Corentyn, Surinam, and Maroni. The climate is thoroughly tropical.

POPULATION, DIVISIONS, &C.—The wealth of Guiana consists in the produce of its soil. Sugar, coffee, cotton, and tobacco, are its chief staples. Pepper, cloves, cinnamon, and nutmegs, are also among the productions of French Guiana.

Guiana is divided between the possession of Britain, Holland, and France.

BRITISH GUIANA has a population of 170,000, chiefly negroes. The capital is *Georgetown*, at the mouth of the river Demerara. *New Amsterdam*, on the river Berbice, is to the east of Georgetown.

DUTCH GUIANA has 60,000 inhabitants, mostly of negro race. Its chief town is *Paramaribo*, on the river Surinam.

FRENCH GUIANA has between three and four hundred thousand inhabitants, principally of negro and native Indian race. Its chief town is *Cayenne*, situated on the island of that name, which adjoins the coast.

VENEZUELA, NEW GRANADA, AND ECUADOR.

SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, &c.—These three countries exhibit a general resemblance in respect of climate and produce, and they were for a time united under the name of Columbia.

VENEZUELA is the most eastward of the three. It is bounded on the north by the Caribbean Sea, on the east by the Atlantic Ocean and British Guiana, on the south by Brazil and New Granada, and on the west by New Granada. Its area is 450,000 square miles.

NEW GRANADA is bounded on the north by the Caribbean Sea, on the east by Venezuela, on the south by Brazil and Ecuador, on the west by the Pacific Ocean. Its area is 380,000 square miles.

ECUADOR is bounded on the north by New Granada, on the east by Brazil, on the south by Peru, and on the west by the Pacific Ocean. It is crossed by the line of the equator, whence its name is derived. Its area is 315,000 square miles.

NATURAL FEATURES, CLIMATE, &c.—Venezuela includes the chief part of the Orinoco valley, with its vast llanos, or grassy plains. The great features of New Granada consist in the Andes, the valley of the Magdalena river, and the plain along the Pacific coast. Ecuador also includes a portion of the Andes, together with a low plain along the Pacific and a more extensive plain to the eastward of the mountain-region. The Equatorial Andes comprehend some of the highest summits of the mountain-system, amongst them Chimborazo, Cotopaxi, and others. Cotopaxi is an active volcano, one of the highest in the world.

In all three countries the climate is tropical, but the heat is moderated by elevation, and the upland plains enjoy a cool temperature. The plain of Quito, directly under the equator, at an elevation of 9000 feet above the sea, has the temperature of an English spring.

The wealth of the soil, in each country, is very great. Cocoa, tobacco, indigo, vanilla, cinchona, (or Jesuit's bark,) the cochineal-plant, are amongst the native productions, and the sugar-cane is cultivated. The precious metals, with other valuable ores, occur in New Granada.

POPULATION, &c.—Venezuela has fewer than 1,500,000 inhabitants, New Granada nearly 2,500,000, Ecuador less than 750,000. The chief articles of commercial export are sugar, cocoa, coffee, tobacco, cotton, and hides; with (from New Granada) a small amount of gold and other metals.

The chief towns are—

	Towns.
VENEZUELA	Caracas, Cumana, Barcelona, Valencia, Maracaybo.
NEW GRANADA	Santa Fé de Bogotá, Cartagena.
ECUADOR	Quito, Guayaquil.

Caracas, the capital of Venezuela, is a few miles distant from the coast of the Caribbean Sea. *Santa Fé de Bogotá*, the capital of New Granada, is situated on a high plateau of the Andes, at an altitude of 8000 feet above the sea. *Quito*, the capital of Ecuador, is still more elevated.

PANAMA, previously included within New Granada, has assumed since 1853 the rank of an independent republic. The city of *Panama* lies on the south or Pacific coast of the isthmus; on the opposite side of the isthmus is *Aspinwall*, (or Colon,) and near it the decayed town of Porto Bello.

PERU AND BOLIVIA.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—PERU is bounded on the north by Ecuador; on the east by Brazil and Bolivia; on the south by Bolivia; on the west and south-west by the Pacific Ocean. Its area is 500,000 square miles.

BOLIVIA is bounded on the north by Peru, on the east and north-east by Brazil, on the south by La Plata, on the west by Peru, with a small part of the Pacific. But the sea-coast of Bolivia is of very limited extent. The area of Bolivia is 600,000 square miles.

NATURAL FEATURES, &c.—Peru includes—1. A large portion of the Andes, comprehending some of the highest summits of the mountain-system. 2. A plain along the coast of the Pacific, between the mountains and the sea. 3. A more extensive plain stretching east from the mountains into the interior of the continent.

Bolivia also includes a large portion of the mountain-region. The border line between the two countries crosses the high plateau of Titicaca, upon either side of which are ranged some of the highest summits in the New World.

The coast-plain, throughout Peru and Bolivia, is an arid, rainless desert, with a climate that is intensely hot. But with this exception, both countries possess great fertility. The watered plains to the east of the Andes are among the most productive in the world. The climate of the mountain-region is cold. Both countries contain abundant mineral wealth. Gums, balsams, cinchona-bark, vanilla, sarsaparilla, and the caoutchouc-tree, abound in Peru.

POPULATION AND INDUSTRY.—Peru has above 2,000,000 inhabitants, and Bolivia about the same number. In both countries, the Indian and mixed races are much more numerous

than whites, who are exclusively of Spanish descent. Comparatively few of the mines are now worked. Coffee, cocoa, tobacco, sugar, and maize, are objects of cultivation, and, with metals, bark, and the wool of the alpaca, are exported. Guano is largely exported from Peru.

TOWNS.—The chief towns of Peru are—Lima, Callao, Cuzco, Arequipa, Pasco, and Arica. *Lima*, the capital, lies six miles inland from the Pacific: Callao is its port. *Cuzco*, the ancient capital of the Incas, is an inland city, lying at an elevation of 11,000 feet above the sea.

The capital of Bolivia is *Chuquisaca*, situated on the interior table-land. Among the other towns are Potosi, La Paz, and Cobija. The last-named is the only seaport which Bolivia possesses.

CHILI.

BOUNDARIES, &C.—Chili is a narrow strip of country lying between the Andes and the Pacific. It is bounded on the north by Bolivia; east by La Plata; on the west and south by the Pacific Ocean. Its area is 170,000 square miles.

NATURAL FEATURES, &C.—The great feature of Chili is the stupendous cordillera which forms its eastern border. The Chilian Andes include Aconcagua, the highest mountain in the New World: a great many of their summits are active volcanoes. Chili is generally fertile, but its extreme northern part is an arid plain, called the Desert of Atacamá. The longest river is the Biobio. The climate is temperate and healthy, especially towards the south. Copper and coal are among the mineral produce of Chili.

POPULATION, &C.—The inhabitants number about 1,500,000, of whom a large proportion are whites, of Spanish descent. The commerce of Chili is considerable: copper-ore, silver, hides, wheat, flour, and jerked beef, are exported.

The capital of Chili is *Santiago*, an inland city. The chief ports are *Valparaiso*, *Concepcion*, and *Coquimbo*.

LA PLATA, OR THE ARGENTINE CONFEDERATION.

BOUNDARIES, &C.—La Plata embraces a confederacy of States, which are together entitled the Argentine Republic, or the United Provinces of La Plata. It is bounded on the north by Bolivia; west by Chili; south by Patagonia; on the east by Paraguay, Brazil, Uruguay, and Buenos Ayres.

NATURAL FEATURES, &C.—The greater part of La Plata is an immense plain. This plain includes, in the south, the region of the Pampas, and, in the north, the larger portion of an ex-

tensive tract called the Gran Chaco—a succession of grassy plains, of the highest natural fertility, though tenanted only by wild beasts, or equally wild Indians.

The rivers of La Plata are of first-rate magnitude. Among them are the Paraguay, the Paraná, and the Uruguay, the three great feeders of the estuary entitled the river Plate (Rio de la Plata). The climate is temperate.

POPULATION, &c.—This extensive region has fewer than 1,000,000 inhabitants, a large proportion of whom are whites. The vast herds of oxen and horses that roam over its plains are the chief wealth of La Plata. Its commercial productions are principally horse and ox-hides, horse-hair, horns, wool, tallow, dried beef, and furs.

DIVISIONS, &c.—The Argentine Confederation now embraces twelve provinces. The present capital is the town of *Paraná*, on the river of that name.

Three of the provinces which formerly belonged to the Argentine Confederation have become separated from the federal union, and rank as independent States. These are Paraguay, Uruguay, and Buenos Ayres.

PARAGUAY is a tract of country enclosed between the rivers Paraná and Paraguay, and bordered upon the north and west by Brazil. Its population is above 500,000. The capital is *Assomption*, on the river Paraguay.

URUGUAY is bordered by the Rio de la Plata, the Atlantic Ocean, and Brazil. It has fewer than 200,000 inhabitants. The chief town is *Monte Video*.

BUENOS AYRES—previously to 1853 the head of the Argentine Confederation—includes the south bank of the Rio de la Plata, and extends thence along the Atlantic coast as far as the river Negro. It has a population of 350,000. The city of *Buenos Ayres*, on the south bank of the river Plate, is still the chief out-port for the produce of the La Plata territory.

PATAGONIA, the extreme south part of the American continent, is a barren region, thinly inhabited by a few tribes of uncivilised Indians. The sovereignty over it is claimed by the Argentine Confederation.

The FALKLAND ISLANDS belong to Britain. They are situated in the midst of a stormy sea, and furnish little beyond oxen and horses, but are occasionally visited by whaling ships and other vessels that pass round Cape Horn. They contain the port of *Stanley*.

AUSTRALIA.

SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, &C.—AUSTRALIA is within the southern hemisphere. It is the smallest of the continents, and is the only one of them that is situated wholly to the south of the equator.

Australia is bounded by the Pacific Ocean on the east, the Indian Ocean on the west and north-west, and the Southern Ocean on the south. It includes 3,000,000 square miles, which is more than three-fourths the size of Europe.

SEAS, GULFS, &C.—Australia is solid and unbroken in shape. The most considerable indentations of its coast are—

On the North.	*On the South.*
Gulf of Carpentaria.	Spencer Gulf. St Vincent Gulf.
On the West.	*On the East.*
Shark Bay.	Moreton Bay.

The two principal straits are—Torres Strait (between Australia and New Guinea) in the north; Bass Strait (between Australia and Tasmania) in the south.

CAPES.—The most important are—

Cape York .....the northernmost point of Australia.
Cape Byron .....the most easterly point
Cape Howe .....the south-east point.
Cape Wilson.....the southernmost point.
Cape Leeuwin.....the south-west point.
Steep Point .....the westernmost point.

NATURAL FEATURES.—The high grounds of Australia lie near the coasts, and in the general direction of north and south. Those near the eastern coasts form a continuous chain, different portions of which bear the following names:—

Australian Alps .....in Victoria and New South Wales.
Blue Mountains .....in New South Wales.
Liverpool Range.....in do. do.

The Australian Alps are the highest known mountains in

Australia; Mount Koskiusko, their loftiest summit, reaches 6500 feet above the sea. The Blue Mountains are little more than 3000 feet.

Upon the inland side of the mountains, the country exhibits, for the most part, vast plains which stretch towards the distant interior. These plains are generally covered with herbage, and portions of them are thinly wooded. Some parts of the central interior are arid and desert; but there is reason to believe that extensive tracts of country, well suited for pasturage, will be found within the vast region yet unexplored.

RIVERS, &C.—The rivers of Australia are unequal in size to those of other regions, and their volume of water undergoes great variation with the seasons of the year.

The principal are—

Murray (with its tributaries, Murrumbidgee, Lachlan, and Darling)	entering the Southern Ocean.	
Shoalhaven	flowing east, into Pacific Ocean.	
Hawkesbury	do.	do.
Hunter	do.	do.
Macleay	do.	do.
Clarence	do.	do.
Brisbane	do.	do.
Swan	flowing west, into Indian Ocean.	
Victoria	flowing north-west,	do.

The most important are the Murray and its tributaries, which are navigated by steamers during great part of the year. The largest lake is Alexandrina, near the mouth of the river Murray.

CLIMATE AND NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.—The prevailing characteristic of the climate is intense aridity. The air of Australia is almost uniformly warm, dry, and healthy.

Nearly one-half of Australia falls within the torrid zone. The whole of Australia experiences a high temperature, but, from its situation in the southern hemisphere, the amount of heat diminishes from north to south, instead of from south to north. The southernmost parts of Australia are the coolest.

The populated portions of Australia—that is, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, and Western Australia—have a climate which bears much resemblance to that of southern Europe. Intensely hot winds, generated in the arid plains of the interior, sometimes blow, but are seldom of more than two or three days' continuance. The rains fall with great violence during the period comprehended between May and August: the rest of the year is dry.

METALS AND MINERALS.—Australia has abundant mineral wealth. The gold-fields of Victoria rival those of California,

and the copper-ore of South Australia is of unsurpassed richness. Gold is found in New South Wales, but much less abundantly than in the adjacent province of Victoria. Other metals—iron, copper, lead, and tin—occur in the settled portions of Australia. Coal is found in New South Wales, (at the mouth of the river Hunter,) and in Tasmania.

VEGETATION.—The native vegetation of Australia is altogether different from that of other parts of the globe. With scarcely an exception, the plants that are indigenous to its soil are valueless as food. Many of its trees, however, yield valuable timber: those most abundant are gum-trees and acacias.

All the grains and fruits that belong to southern Europe and similar regions of sub-tropical temperature flourish in the Australian soil. The vine, orange, fig, olive, and peach, grow in unsurpassed luxuriance. Both wheat and maize return abundant crops.

ZOOLOGY.—The largest animal native to Australia is the kangaroo, which is found in no other part of the world. Two-thirds of the native animals of Australia are either kangaroos or opossums—both of them belonging to an order of animals called *marsupial*, which possess the singular habit of carrying their young in a kind of pouch or bag under the neck. There is a native dog, which is being fast exterminated by the settlers, to prevent the injuries which it inflicts upon their flocks.

The sheep, ox, goat, pig, and horse, now numerously reared in Australia, are all descended from animals that were first taken thither by Europeans. The wool of the sheep is (with the exception of gold) the most valuable article of Australian produce. There is a kind of ostrich (the emu) native to Australia, but the birds, as well as the quadrupeds, that are native to this singular region, are altogether unlike those of other parts of the globe.

POPULATION.—The chief part of the present inhabitants of Australia are of British descent. It is less than three-quarters of a century since the colonisation of this distant region commenced (in 1788), and already there are above a million of inhabitants speaking the English language, and following the ordinary usages of English life.

The aboriginal natives of Australia are among the most degraded members of the human race. They are few in number, and are rapidly diminishing. The scattered tribes that still wander over the vast interior obtain a scanty subsistence from such means as the forests or river-beds of their native land

afford. A few roots and berries with shell-fish, insects, grubs, and other objects repulsive to civilised tastes, are the sole native resources of the Australian savage in this respect.

The aborigines of Australia belong to the Papuan (or Austral-Negro) race. Their skins are of dark colour—almost black—and their stature below the average of Europeans.

DIVISIONS, &C.—The settled portions of Australia are divided into the following provinces, each of which constitutes a distinct colony, under a governor appointed by the British Crown:—

Colonies.	*Towns.*
NEW SOUTH WALES	Sydney, Newcastle, Bathurst, Goulburn.
QUEENSLAND	Brisbane.
VICTORIA	Melbourne, Geelong, Belfast, Castlemaine.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	Adelaide, Port Lincoln, Port Elliot.
WESTERN AUSTRALIA	Perth, Freemantle.
TASMANIA (or VAN DIEMEN'S LAND)	Hobart Town, Launceston.

Sydney, the capital of New South Wales, is the oldest of Australian cities, having been founded in 1788. It stands on the south shore of Port Jackson, an inlet of the Australian coast, which is one of the finest harbours in the world. Sydney has upwards of 100,000 inhabitants.

Brisbane, the capital of Queensland (formerly the Moreton Bay district of New South Wales), lies at the mouth of the river Brisbane, which enters Moreton Bay.

Melbourne, the capital of Victoria, was only founded in 1837, but has already above 100,000 inhabitants. It stands on the river Yarra, near the head of Port Phillip, an inlet of the southern coast.

Adelaide, the capital of South Australia, is near the east shore of St Vincent Gulf. *Perth*, the capital of Western Australia, is on the Swan river.

Hobart Town, the capital of Tasmania, is on the river Derwent, which flows into Storm Bay, on the south-eastern coast of that island. *Launceston*, on the north side of the island, is on the river Tamar, which flows into Bass Strait.

Since the discovery of the Australian gold-fields, in 1851, gold has far exceeded in value any other article of export from Australia. The next place in order of value (and the first in industrial importance) is taken by wool, which is annually exported in vast quantity from the Australian colonies to Britain. Victoria and New South Wales are the most populous and commercial of the Australian colonies. South Australia and Tasmania come next in order. Western Australia has the smallest population, and the lowest amount of produce. South Australia is distinguished by the large amount of its agricultural produce, and a great quantity of its wheat is supplied to the neighbouring province of Victoria.

POLYNESIA.

EXTENT, &C.—POLYNESIA—a word which signifies "many islands"—embraces the vast multitude of islands that are scattered over the Pacific Ocean. Some of these islands are of large size; but by far the greater number of them are small. The smaller islands, however, are generally arranged in groups.

The principal islands of this division of the globe are—

New Zealand.	Friendly Islands.	New Guinea.
Sandwich Islands.	Feejee Islands.	Louisiade Archipelago.
Caroline Islands.	New Hebrides.	New Britain.
Ladrone Islands.	New Caledonia.	New Ireland.
Society Islands.	Loyalty Islands.	New Hanover.
Marquesas Islands.	Solomon Islands.	Admiralty Islands.
Samoa (or Navigators Islands).	Queen Charlotte Islands.	

New Zealand is the most important of the number, and is of larger size than any of the others, excepting New Guinea.

NEW ZEALAND consists of a group of islands situated south of the equator, and within the south temperate zone. It embraces two large islands—North Island and Middle Island—which are divided by Cook Strait. There is a third island, of much smaller size, called South Island: this is divided from the Middle Island by Foveaux Strait. The area of New Zealand is nearly 100,000 square miles, or about double the size of England.

Both the larger islands of New Zealand are mountainous, especially on their western side. Mount Egmont, in the North Island, reaches upwards of 8000 feet, and some of the summits in the Middle Island exceed 9000 feet in height. But there are extensive plains well suited for pastoral pursuits, as well as fertile tracts of arable land. The climate is temperate and healthy.

The trees that are native to New Zealand furnish valuable timber; but, like Australia, this distant region of the south is deficient in indigenous food-plants. New Zealand has

neither native grains nor fruits. The taro and the sweet-potato are cultivated as their chief articles of diet by the natives. The native flax is capable of furnishing a valuable cordage. Animal life is deficient to an extraordinary degree. The hog was the largest quadruped found in New Zealand by the first settlers. The dog, a few rats and mice, and the hog, make up the sum total of the land animals of this extensive region. There are no marsupials.

But the grains, fruits, vegetables, and domestic cattle of Britain thrive in the plains of New Zealand. Sheep are now reared in great numbers, especially in the province of Canterbury, and wool constitutes an article of export.

The native population of New Zealand are a fine race of men, altogether different from the Australian savage. They are estimated to number between 60,000 and 70,000, most of them on the North Island. But their number is diminishing. They have been converted to Christianity since the possession of New Zealand by Britain.

New Zealand was colonised by Britain in 1839, and has since formed a possession of the British Crown. The colonists are now about 60,000 in number. The colony is divided into seven provinces, four of them on the North, and three on the Middle Island.

The capital of New Zealand is *Auckland*, situated on the North Island. The other chief towns are *Wellington* and *New Plymouth* (both on the North Island), with *Nelson*, *Christchurch*, and *Dunedin*, situated upon the Middle Island. Christchurch is the chief place in the province of Canterbury: Dunedin in that of Otago, the most southwardly of the New Zealand settlements.

The smaller islands of Polynesia are either of coral or of volcanic formation—the coral islands being by much the more numerous. They consist chiefly of low reefs, raised only a few feet above the level of the sea, and in many cases hardly on a higher level than that reached by the flood-tide. These islands owe their formation to the labours of the coral-worm, a species of zoophyte, which builds up to the level of the ocean the stony matter secreted by its own economy. The coral-worm does not exist at greater depths than twenty or thirty fathoms, so that the numerous coral reefs of the Pacific and other seas are based upon submarine rocks.

The greater number of the coral islands are of semicircular shape, with a lagoon of still water enclosed between the inner curve of the semicircle and the reef which connects its extremities. A few of them form complete circles, with enclosed

lagoons. The volcanic islands reach in many cases a height of several thousand feet above the sea.

The climate of the smaller Polynesian islands is one of the most delightful in the world. The heat of the torrid zone is here tempered by the influence of the vast surrounding ocean. The thermometer undergoes little variation throughout the year, and an almost uniform serenity of atmosphere prevails. This island-world possesses some productions that are peculiar to itself, chief amongst them the bread-fruit tree, the principal food of the native Polynesian race. The plantain or banana, cocoa-nut, yam, taro, sweet-potato, and arrow-root, are common to this part of the globe with the islands of the Indian seas. The sugar-cane, vine, orange, and other fruits of warm latitudes, all flourish. None of the larger members of the animal kingdom are found, with the exception of such domestic cattle as have been introduced by Europeans.

The Sandwich Islands, in the northern Pacific, and the Society Islands, in the southern half of that ocean, are the most important of the smaller Polynesian groups. The Sandwich Islands are frequently visited by mariners, and are subject in great measure to the controlling influence of the United States. The largest island of this group is Owhyhee (or Hawaii), upon which Captain Cook, their discoverer, was killed, in 1779. The largest of the Society Islands is Otaheite, or Tahiti, which is under the control of France.

The Feejee Islands are inhabited by a race of savages, amongst whom the practice of cannibalism is still common.

New Caledonia, a large island measuring 200 miles in length, has been since 1854 in the possession of France.

Both the New Hebrides and the Solomon Islands are extensive but little known groups. The island of Vanikoro (or Manicolo), the largest of the Queen Charlotte group, was the scene of La Perouse's shipwreck, in 1788.

New Guinea, or Papua, is of very large size. Its shores are in many parts lined by high mountains, but the interior is altogether unknown. The Dutch visit its western coasts, as also do the Chinese and the Malays, who obtain thence tortoise-shell, edible birds'-nests, tripang, and other articles. The beautiful birds-of-paradise are native to this region.

GEORGE PHILIP AND SON, PRINTERS, LIVERPOOL.

PHILIPS' SERIES

OF

LARGE SCHOOL-ROOM MAPS;

SIZE—5 FEET 8 BY 4 FEET 6 INCHES,

With the Physical Features boldly and distinctly delineated, and the Political Boundaries carefully coloured.

CONSTRUCTED BY WILLIAM HUGHES, F.R.G.S.

List of the Maps.

THE WORLD, in Hemispheres.

EUROPE	NORTH AMERICA	SCOTLAND
ASIA	SOUTH AMERICA	IRELAND
AFRICA	ENGLAND & WALES	PALESTINE.

Price of each Map, mounted on Rollers and varnished, 16s.

Philips' Series of Large Sixpenny Maps, 74 kinds.
Size, full sheet imperial, 22 × 27 inches. Carefully coloured, and with the recent discoveries.

Philips' Series of Shilling Maps, 74 kinds.
Printed on superfine paper, and accurately coloured.

Philips' Series of Classical, Historical, and Scriptural Maps, illustrating the Ancient Classics, Historians, and Poets. Size—29 × 23 inches. Engraved in the best style, beautifully printed on superfine paper, and carefully coloured. 36 kinds. Price 1s. 6d. each.

Philips' Series of Fourpenny Maps.
Imperial 4to. Drawn and engraved in the best style, and from the most authentic sources. Edited by WILLIAM HUGHES, F.R.G.S. 54 kinds, beautifully printed in colours.

Philips' Series of Penny and Twopenny Maps.
52 kinds. Imperial 4to. Price 1d. *each,* plain; 2d. each, coloured.

London: Published by GEORGE PHILIP & SON, 32 Fleet Street; and 51 South Castle Street, Liverpool.

PHILIPS' SERIES

OF

OUTLINE MAPS,

Corresponding in size with "Philips' Comprehensive School Atlas," for the Use of Schools and for Private Tuition. Printed on fine Drawing Paper. Price 3d. each.

PHILIPS' SERIES

OF

BLANK PROJECTIONS,

With the Lines of Latitude and Longitude, corresponding in size with "Philips' Comprehensive School Atlas," and intended for the Use of Students learning to construct Maps. Printed on Drawing Paper. Price 3d. each.

List of the Outline Maps and Blank Projections.

1 Eastern Hemisphere
2 Western Hemisphere
3 World, on Mercator's Projection—Double Map
4 Europe
5 Political Map of the British Isles
6 England and Wales
7 Scotland
8 Ireland
9 France, in Departments, with Corsica
10 Denmark, with Iceland and Faroe Isles
11 Russia in Europe
12 Minor States of Germany
13 Austria
14 Switzerland
15 Spain and Portugal
16 Italy
17 Turkey in Europe and Greece
18 Asia
19 Turkey in Asia
20 India
21 Australia and New Zealand
22 New South Wales, Victoria, and the Settled Portions of South Australia
23 Africa
24 North America
25 United States
26 Canada, and the Adjoining Provinces of North America
27 West Indies, and the States of Central America
28 South America
29 Palestine.

Maps, as copies to draw from, can be selected from "Philips' Series of Fourpenny Maps," of which the above are the Outlines and Projections.

London: Published by GEORGE PHILIP & SON, 32 Fleet Street; and 51 South Castle Street, Liverpool.

BOUND BY
G. PHILIP & SON
LONDON AND LIVERPOOL